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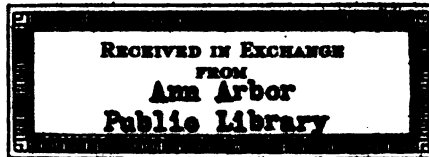
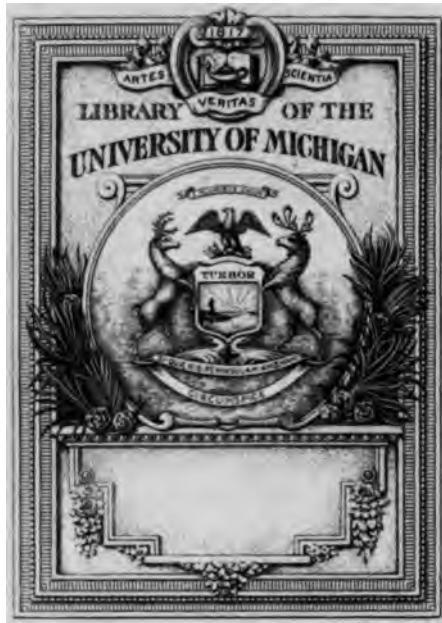
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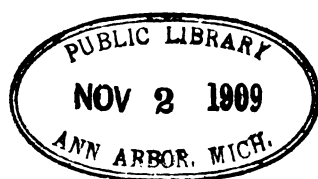
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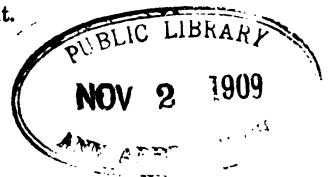
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ARRANGEMENT OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1908.

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Chief of Staff.
The Adjutant-General.
Inspector-General.
Judge-Advocate-General.
- Volume II.....**Armament, Transportation, and Supply:
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Commissary-General.
Surgeon-General.
Paymaster-General.
Chief of Engineers, Military Affairs.^a
Chief of Ordnance.^b
Chief Signal Officer.
Chief of Coast Artillery.
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- Volume III.....**Division and Department Commanders
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3. Department of the Lakes.
4. Department of the Missouri.
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10. Philippines Division.
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- Volume IV.....**Military Schools and Military Parks:
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Military Parks—
1. Chickamauga and Chattanooga.
2. Gettysburg.
3. Shiloh.
4. Vicksburg.
- Volume V.....**Chief of Engineers.
- Volume VI.....**Chief of Ordnance.
- Volumes VII-IX.....**Insular Affairs, and Philippine Commission.



U.S. WAR DEPARTMENT

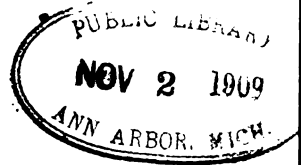
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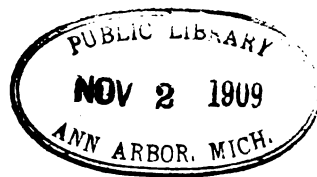
DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST
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DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA
PHILIPPINES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LUZON
DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS
DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO
ARMY OF CUBAN PACIFICATION



WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1908

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~~Class 3536~~
~~Book 3-3~~
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REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST,
Governors Island, New York City, August 1, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report, as commanding general of the Department of the East, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908.

The military duties of this department have been more varied than usual this year, because of the work connected with the camp at the Jamestown Exposition, the coast artillery maneuver exercises, and the concentration and instruction camp at Pine Plains, Jefferson County, N. Y., besides the usual departmental work. These camps and military exercises being subjects of separate reports are not treated of in this report. Much time and energy have been devoted to the details and thoroughness of the work done in these camps and exercises, and it is gratifying to be able to state that complete success was accomplished.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

June 30, 1908, the department returns showed an aggregate strength of 512 commissioned officers and 12,238 enlisted men serving in the department, distributed among the 50 garrisoned posts and at Pine Camp in the following organizations:

Engineers.—Engineer band, Companies E and H, Second Battalion.

Signal Corps.—Company G.

Cavalry.—First Squadron, Eleventh; headquarters, band, and Second Squadron, Thirteenth; Second Squadron, Fifteenth.

Field Artillery.—Batteries D and E, Second Battalion, Third Field Artillery.

Bands, C. A. C.—Second, Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth.

Coast Artillery Corps.—Ninety-eight companies.

Infantry.—First Battalion, Fifth; headquarters, band, and 12 companies, Twelfth; headquarters, band, and 12 companies, Twenty-fourth; headquarters, band, and 8 companies, Porto Rico Regiment.

Staff Corps.—Fifty-nine officers and 130 enlisted men.

Hospital Corps.—Four hundred and sixty-one enlisted men.

The movement of troops to and from the department was as follows:

To the department from the Philippines Division—Twenty-fourth Infantry.

From the department to the Philippines Division—Thirty-fifth Company, Coast Artillery Corps; Fifty-seventh Company, Coast Artillery Corps; Twenty-third Infantry.

Pursuant to instructions from the War Department, October 12, 1907, the following organizations, being on detached service in Cuba, were dropped from the returns of the Department of the East:

Companies F and G, Second Battalion of Engineers; headquarters, band, First and Third Squadrons, Fifteenth Cavalry; Battery F, Third Field Artillery; headquarters, band, Second and Third Battalions, Fifth Infantry.

New artillery districts have been created during the past year, as follows:

The artillery district of Portsmouth, which embraces Forts Constitution, Stark, and Foster.

The artillery district of New Bedford, which embraces Fort Rodman.

The following new posts have been authorized, but not yet garrisoned:

Fort Baldwin, Me.; Fort Delaware, Del.; Fort Getty, R. I.; Fort McClary, Me.; Fort Philip Kearny, R. I.; Fort Popham, Me.; Fort Tyler, N. Y.; Fort Wool, Va.

The new companies of coast artillery, authorized by Congress, were organized in this department on the dates and at the forts as given below:

August 1, 1907.—Fort Adams, One hundred and twenty-ninth and One hundred and thirtieth Companies; Fort H. G. Wright, One hundred and thirty-first; Fort Trumbull, One hundred and thirty-second; Fort Terry, One hundred and thirty-third; Fort Michie, One hundred and thirty-fourth; Fort Totten, One hundred and thirty-fifth; Fort Hancock, One hundred and thirty-sixth and One hundred and thirty-seventh; Fort Mott, One hundred and thirty-eighth; Fort Du Pont, One hundred and thirty-ninth; Fort Howard, One hundred and fortieth; Fort McHenry, One hundred and forty-first and One hundred and forty-second; Fort Washington, One hundred and forty-third.

August 5, 1907.—Fort Revere, One hundred and fifty-first; Fort Banks, One hundred and fifty-second; Fort Andrews, One hundred and fifty-third; Fort Wadsworth, One hundred and fifty-seventh.

August 20, 1907.—Fort McKinley, One hundred and fifty-fourth; Fort Williams, One hundred and fifty-fifth; Fort Constitution, One hundred and fifty-sixth.

November 20, 1907.—Fort Monroe, One hundred and sixty-fifth, One hundred and sixty-sixth, One hundred and sixty-seventh, One hundred and sixty-eighth, and One hundred and sixty-ninth.

JOINT ARMY AND MILITIA COAST DEFENSE EXERCISES.

Exercises were held in artillery districts on dates mentioned below, and the militia participating in the same were as follows:

The artillery district of Baltimore, July 5-14, 1907.—First Infantry, N. G. Maryland; one company, Coast Artillery Corps.

The artillery district of the Potomac, July 20-28, 1907.—One company, First Regiment Infantry, N. G. District of Columbia; Second Regiment Infantry.

The artillery district of New London, July 15-26, 1907.—Two companies, C. A. C., N. G. Connecticut; Third Regiment Infantry, N. G. Connecticut; detachment Signal Corps.

The artillery district of Narragansett Bay, July 1-14, 1907.—First Regiment Infantry, N. G. Rhode Island; Second Regiment Infantry, N. G. Rhode Island; detachment Hospital Corps; detachment Signal Corps.

The artillery district of Boston, July 27-August 3, 1907.—Coast Artillery Corps, N. G. Massachusetts; Fifth Regiment Infantry, N. G. Massachusetts; detachment Hospital Corps.

The artillery district of Portland, August 8-17, 1907.—First Regiment Infantry, N. G. Maine; Second Regiment Infantry, N. G. Maine; detachment Hospital Corps.

The artillery district of Boston, June 21-30, 1908.—First to Twelfth Companies, C. A. C., N. G. Massachusetts; Ninth Regiment Infantry, N. G. Massachusetts.

The eastern artillery district of New York, June 13-20, 1908.—Eighth Regiment, C. A. C., N. G. New York; Seventy-first Regiment Infantry, N. G. New York.

The artillery district of Baltimore, June 6-15, 1908.—First Company, C. A. C., N. G. Maryland; First Regiment Infantry, N. G. Maryland.

The artillery district of Narragansett Bay, June 21-30, 1908.—First Regiment Infantry, N. G. Rhode Island; Second Regiment Infantry, N. G. Rhode Island.

The southern artillery district of New York, June 13-20, 1908.—Ninth Regiment, C. A. C., N. G. New York; Thirteenth Regiment, C. A. C., N. G. New York; Forty-seventh Regiment Infantry, N. G. New York.

The artillery district of New London, June 11-20, 1908.—First to Fourteenth Companies, C. A. C., N. G. Connecticut; one company, Signal Corps; one band.

The adjutant-general, Department of the East, during the entire fiscal year, has been Col. H. O. S. Heistand, who was assisted by Capt. W. T. Johnston, Fifteenth Cavalry, A. D. C. Captain Johnston was relieved from duty in the adjutant-general's office by Maj. Frederick Perkins, adjutant-general, who was assigned to the Department of the East by paragraph 30, Special Orders, No. 76, War Department, 1908, and who reported for duty April 13, 1908.

INSPECTIONS OF ORGANIZED MILITIA.

Inspections of the organized militia, in compliance with section 14 of the Dick bill, which were formerly conducted by officers of the Inspector-General's Department, were this year made by officers detailed from the line and staff of the Regular Army. In detailing officers to make these inspections I directed that they be chosen from available officers of the regular organizations belonging to the same arm of the service, as were the militia organizations, to be inspected, viz: Militia field batteries were to be inspected by regular officers of field artillery, cavalry organizations by regular cavalry officers, and infantry organizations by regular infantry officers. I also directed that officers detailed to make these inspections should be from among those who were stationed nearest to the militia organizations to be inspected.

The resultant reports, forwarded through these headquarters, show that these inspections were made with great care and thoroughness,

and that the militia organizations in the matter of supply, discipline, training, and organization varied from "Fair" to "Excellent." A general improvement over former years was indicated, and the officers of the militia showed such earnest interest in their work that their further improvement seems sure to follow.

About the middle of October, 1907, the department inspector-general mentioned to me the fact that the department's business in the offices was not being conducted according to the method prescribed in General Orders, No. 191, War Department, 1905. I at once directed all the officers at these headquarters to change the method of conducting their business to the method prescribed in the above-mentioned orders. A few days after this change of business methods was inaugurated, it was found to be impracticable, for the officers who transacted their business in the Army building in New York to fully follow it, because of their being so far separated from these headquarters on Governors Island. The change to this method of transacting business at these headquarters has brought about great relief in the amount of clerical work heretofore performed. In my annual report of 1907 I referred to the fact that the exact count of communications received and sent out in the adjutant-general's office of this department had been kept, and the average number handled each day was 215, making a total of 78,475 for the year. Though the volume of business of this department has been greatly increased this year, owing to the coast-defense exercises, instruction camps, etc., the number of papers received and sent out amounted to 200 daily, and the total to 64,800 for the year. This reduction in the number of papers indicates the value of the new business method prescribed by General Orders, No. 191, which has saved the double handling of many of the papers.

INSPECTORS.

The officers on duty June 30, 1908, in the inspector-general's office were:

1. Col. J. L. Chamberlain, inspector-general, on duty since August 13, 1907, per paragraph 15, Special Orders, No. 129, War Department, Washington, dated June 3, 1907.

2. Maj. L. S. McCormick, inspector-general, on duty since November 14, 1907, per paragraph 6, Special Orders, No. 264, War Department, Washington, dated November 9, 1907.

3. Maj. M. F. Harmon, Coast Artillery Corps, acting inspector-general, on duty since November 7, 1907, per paragraph 6, Special Orders, No. 250, War Department, Washington, dated October 24, 1907.

The following officers have been relieved from duty in this office during the year:

1. Col. S. C. Mills, inspector-general, per paragraph 23, Special Orders, No. 123, War Department, Washington, dated May 25, 1907. Left station July 18, 1907.

2. Maj. W. P. Newcomb, Coast Artillery Corps, acting inspector-general, per paragraph 18, Special Orders, No. 246, War Department, Washington, dated October 19, 1907. Left station November 2, 1907.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF WORK.

Because of changes in the personnel of the office and shortage of mileage the following-named posts, stations, etc., were not inspected during the year, namely:

Posts and subposts—Fort Adams, R. I., and its subpost, Fort Wetherill, R. I.; Fort Andrews, Mass.; Fort Greble, R. I.; Fort McHenry, Md., and its subposts, Forts Carroll and Armistead, Md.; Fort Revere, Mass.; Fort Rodman, Mass.; Fort Schuyler, N. Y.; Fort Strong, Mass.; Fort Totten, N. Y.; and the posts of San Juan, P. R., and Henry Barracks, Cayey, P. R.

Ungarrisoned posts—Fort Delaware, Del.; Fort Foote, Md.; Fort Independence, Mass.; Fort Winthrop, Mass.

Recruiting stations—Baltimore, Md.; Huntington, W. Va.; Richmond, Va.; Roanoke, Va.

No national cemeteries were inspected excepting Finns Point, New Jersey.

With few exceptions the inspections of the accounts of disbursing officers assigned to this office were made as prescribed.

There have been ten special investigations made by officers on duty in this office.

RESULTS OF INSPECTION.

Examination and analysis of reports of inspection show the following:

At 18 posts conditions were reported as satisfactory; at 3 posts, not wholly satisfactory; and at 2 posts, Fort Du Pont, Del., and Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., not satisfactory.

Inspection of recruiting stations showed many irregularities and defects, but subsequent to these inspections several changes in personnel as well as other changes were made. It is believed that owing to these changes conditions have greatly improved.

Conditions at the various supply depots, arsenals, etc., were found to be very satisfactory.

CLERKS TO INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

I renew my recommendation, made in my annual report of 1907, that each officer of the Inspector-General's Department and each acting inspector-general assigned to duty at department headquarters should have a regularly assigned clerk, who should accompany him on inspections of posts and of accounts of disbursing officers. These clerks should follow the fortunes of the officer, changing station with him, so long as he remains an inspector. The present plan by which clerks are supplied by assignment from the War Department, liable to be changed by the same authority at any time, is unsatisfactory.

Under present conditions the work of recording data and preparing reports of post inspection makes entirely too great a demand on the time and strength of the officer. On the long trips reports must be prepared as places are finished or the facts become blurred in the inspector's mind.

The proper inspection of money accounts requires familiarity with the forms of accounts of all branches of the service, and involves a laborious attention to small details and of figures.

Two men can inspect an account more quickly and with greater accuracy than one. Regularly assigned clerks would be trained for their duties, and would be of great assistance to the inspectors, and invaluable to newly detailed officers from the line suddenly confronted with large accounts pertaining to departments with whose workings they were not familiar. Inspection duty properly performed is hard, painstaking duty, requiring attention to minute detail and the patient following of figures through all the various ramifications of account books, in addition to the military side of the inspection. Inspectors-general should be supplied with the necessary help in the way of clerical assistance. That obtained from troops under paragraph 889, A. R., is not, and in the nature of things can not be, satisfactory, even in the post inspections, while in money accounts it is ordinarily not available.

Disbursing officers, whether of the Engineers, Ordnance, Quartermaster, Subsistence, Pay, or Signal Corps, have their regular money clerks, familiar with all the ramifications of accounts, laws relating to disbursements, decisions in regard to expenditures, etc., in their own department. Only inspectors-general, even newly detailed ones, are supposed to understand all these accounts, and to certify to their correctness after an inspection in which the services of clerks in the office being inspected must be used. This is neither proper as regards inspection nor just to the inspector.

The individual clerks who are now with the Department of the East are good, and are entitled to great praise for their laborious, painstaking work. But these clerks are liable to be relieved or transferred without the inspectors being consulted, and the situation is not satisfactory to me as the department commander, to the inspectors-general, nor to the clerks. The inspectors-general of the Department of the East have much important work to occupy their attention, and should be free from anxiety over minute details in the running of the office and keeping its records correctly.

The number of clerks should be sufficient for each officer to have one assigned to him, to accompany him habitually on his tours of inspection.

CHIEF ENGINEER OFFICER.

Col. John G. D. Knight was assigned to duty as chief engineer officer of this department by paragraph 17, Special Orders 128, War Department, and was announced as such by General Orders 28, Department of the East, July 1, 1907.

The map made by Capt. William R. Dashiell, Twenty-fourth Infantry, was prepared in the office of the chief engineer, for use at the "Concentration and instruction" camp at Pine Plains, Jefferson County, N. Y. This map was superseded by others prepared by the detachment of engineers at Pine Camp, based upon reconnaissance and surveys made there.

Upon being notified by the War Department, May 11, that Congress had made appropriations for the camp of "Concentration and

instruction," I immediately directed a detachment of engineers to proceed at once from Washington Barracks to Pine Plains district, New York, for the purpose of making complete maps of that section of country. As results of their labors two maps were in readiness for use on June 15, the first day of instruction at Pine Camp. One was a road map on a scale of 1 inch to the mile, and the other was a very accurate contour map, in four sections, on a scale of 4 inches to a mile. The completion in one month of this latter accurate topographical map, covering an area of nearly 200 square miles, and of the road map, covering an area of 300 square miles, was a most creditable work, and considering the detail and degree of accuracy obtained, it is believed to be unprecedented. Lieut. Julian L. Schley, U. S. Engineers, who had charge of this map making, deserves commendation. As there was not sufficient time to send these maps to the office of the chief engineer for lithographic copies to be made of them, these maps were reproduced by photographic process, which work was done under the direction of Lieut. Harold C. Fiske, Engineer Corps, at Pine Camp.

Some progress has been made on the progressive military map of the United States, at least one officer from each post in the department garrisoned by engineer, cavalry, and infantry troops having been detailed for such fieldwork as could be accomplished in the vicinity of his post. Such field notes as have been received will probably be plotted in the near future.

Owing to the limited amount of money, \$1,800, allotted from the appropriation for "Civilian assistants to engineer officers," work on the progressive military map can not be steadily continued. It is now necessary to furlough the draftsman in the chief engineer's office from time to time, during which periods he is employed in the office of the district engineer, in charge of river and harbor works, so that office expenditures may be limited to the amount allotted. I recommend that an allotment of \$3,300 be made to the chief engineer officer for expenditures during this fiscal year, so that the necessary engineer work of the department may be continuous.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE.

Lieut. Col. John A. Hull has been the judge-advocate of this department since September 16, 1907, having relieved Lieut. Col. H. C. Carbaugh, judge-advocate, in that office, who left these headquarters September 9, 1907, for his new station in the Department of the Lakes. Capt. W. T. Johnston, Fifteenth Cavalry, A. D. C., was acting judge-advocate during the interim between the departure of Lieutenant-Colonel Carbaugh and the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel Hull.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hull submits the following report as to trials of officers and enlisted men in this department for the year ending June 30, 1908:

Trials of officers.

Name and rank.	Corps.	Charges.	Result.
Captain Arthur W. Chase ...	Coast Artillery ...	Twentieth and sixty-second articles of war.	Found guilty under twentieth and sixty-second articles of war; loss of 5 (reduced to 3) files of lineal list of captains of Coast Artillery Corps; General Order 103, headquarters Department of the East, 1907.
First Lieutenant Adolph Langhorst.	.....do	Thirty-third, sixty-second, and sixty-first articles of war.	Found guilty under thirty-third, not guilty of sixty-second and sixty-first articles of war; reprimanded by reviewing authority, General Order 74, headquarters Department of the East, 1907.
First Lieutenant Allan Lefort.	.....do	Sixty-first and sixty-second articles of war.	Found guilty under sixty-first and sixty-second articles of war; dismissal and confinement five years in United States penitentiary, General Order 17, War Department, 1908.
First Lieutenant John A. Pearson.	Seventh Cavalry..	Sixty-second and twenty-first articles of war.	Found not guilty under twenty-first, but guilty under sixty-second article of war; confinement to post six months and reprimanded by reviewing authority, General Order 56, headquarters Department of the East, 1908.
First Lieutenant Geo. A. F. Trumbo.	Twelfth Cavalry..	Sixty-first article of war.	Found not guilty under sixty-first, but guilty under sixty-second article of war; reprimanded by reviewing authority and confinement for two months to post, General Order 87, headquarters Department of the East, 1907.

TRIALS OF ENLISTED MEN.

There were 867 trials of enlisted men by general court-martial, of which 810 were convictions and 57 acquittals, and 13 trials of military convicts. The offenses committed were:

Offense.	Article of war.	Number.	Offense.	Article of war.	Number.
Losing accouterments.....	Seventeenth.....	7	Disorderly conduct.....	Sixty-second ...	9
Losing clothing.....	do.....	29	Drunkness.....	do.....	21
Selling clothing.....	do.....	39	Drunk and disorderly.....	do.....	28
Disrespect to commissioned officer.	Twentieth.....	3	Drunk, causing arrest by civil authorities.	do.....	1
Disobeying superior officer.	Twenty-first.....	2	Embezzlement.....	do.....	4
Using violence against noncommissioned officer.	Twenty-fourth ..	1	Escape from guardhouse.	do.....	4
Absence without leave ...	Thirty-second ..	191	False statement.....	do.....	30
Absence from drills.....	Thirty-third.....	28	Forgery.....	do.....	3
Drunkness on duty.....	Thirty-eighth ..	35	Fraudulent enlistment.	do.....	93
Leaving post.....	Thirty-ninth ..	26	Introducing liquor into post.	do.....	9
Sleeping on post.....	do.....	13	Language, insulting, insubordinate, threatening, obscene, etc., to noncommissioned officer.	do.....	36
Quitting guard.....	Fortieth.....	15	Language, insulting, insubordinate, threatening, obscene, etc., to commissioned officer.	do.....	5
Desertion.....	Forty-seventh ..	309	Larceny.....	do.....	93
Advising soldierto desert.	Fifty-first.....	2	Losing equipment.....	do.....	5
Larceny of Government property.	Sixtieth.....	6	Mayhem.....	do.....	1
Other offenses.....	do.....	1	Neglect of duty.....	do.....	29
Absence without leave ...	Sixty-second ..	8	Resisting arrest.....	do.....	4
Assault.....	do.....	9	Sodomy.....	do.....	4
Assault and battery.....	do.....	14	Suffering prisoner to escape.	do.....	6
Assault and battery, attempt to kill.	do.....	1	Unlawful disposition of clothing.	do.....	48
Attempting to strike noncommissioned officer.	do.....	10	Other disorders.....	do.....	103
Breach of arrest.....	do.....	35			
Burglary.....	do.....	3			
Committing nuisance.....	do.....	5			
Disobeying noncommissioned officer.	do.....	62			
Disobeying superior officer.	do.....	17			

GARRISON COURTS-MARTIAL.

There were 70 trials by garrison court-martial, of which 20 were acquittals. The offenses committed were:

Article of war.	Number.	Article of war.	Number.
17th.....	6	62d.....	50
82d.....	10	62d (drunk).....	5
83d.....	5		

The number of different men tried by garrison court-martial was 69.

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

SUMMARY COURTS-MARTIAL.

There were 7,394 trials by summary court-martial, of which 233 were acquittals. The offenses committed were:

Article of war.	Number.	Article of war.	Number.
17th	145	36th	1
20th	6	38th	387
31st	18	40th	5
32d	3,189	53d	1
33d	2,149	62d	8,946
34th	2	62d (drunk)	1,069

There were 4,231 different men tried by summary court-martial.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The duties of chief quartermaster were performed by Col. John W. Pullman, assistant quartermaster-general, U. S. Army, up to March 16, 1908. Pursuant to paragraph 7, Special Orders, No. 27, War Department, 1908, Col. Charles A. H. McCauley reported to me and was announced in General Orders, No. 40, Department of the East, March 16, 1908, as chief quartermaster of the department, relieving Colonel Pullman of those duties.

The fuel, forage, and straw required for the posts and depots in this department were purchased and supplied under contracts made in the chief quartermaster's office, except for the posts in Porto Rico, where they were supplied through purchases made by the depot quartermaster, New York City. The aggregate amount expended for these articles, including mineral oil, was \$617,996.77. The expenditures made in operating boats, including hire of them, was \$258,056.74; 630,847 passengers and 14,324,856 pounds of freight were transported by the boats in the department.

The horses required for artillery and government use and draft animals required for transportation purpose in the quartermaster's department were supplied under the direction of the Quartermaster-General, with the exception of two horses purchased in the department at a total cost of \$321.98.

The cost of authorized telephones during the year was \$5,683, and in addition for long-distance messages the sum of \$1,447.37 was spent.

Regular estimates and special requisitions for clothing and equipage, tableware, kitchen utensils, and other quartermaster stores were acted upon in this office during the year to the number of 6,811.

The disbursements and transfers in this office were as follows:

Disbursed	\$693,692.69
Office transfers	1,273,070.13
Total	1,966,762.82

An allotment, \$54,900, for the equipment of the "Concentration and instruction camp" at Pine Plains, N. Y., was expended in the preparation and maintenance of Pine Camp, under the direction of the chief quartermasters of the camp, Maj. T. H. Slavens and later Maj. R. McA. Schofield, both officers of the Quartermaster's Department, U. S. Army.

In addition to the amount for equipment there was allotted for transportation of troops participating in the maneuvers in Pine Plains the sum of \$115,168.39. This account is being disbursed under the direction of the depot quartermaster, New York City.

For coast defense exercises, appropriation "Encampment and maneuvers, organized militia," there was allotted in the department the sum of \$50,000. This amount has been transferred to district quartermasters and the depot quartermasters at New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington for payment of transportation accounts thereunder.

REPAIRS, ETC., TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The following were the expenditures made for repairs and alterations to buildings at the posts in this department from funds of the fiscal year 1908, and the disbursements made thereunder, by local quartermasters:

Barracks and quarters.....	\$128,806.98
Military post exchanges.....	7,297.12
Construction and repairs of hospitals.....	15,342.55
Hospital stewards' quarters.....	1,990.64
Regular supplies.....	2,445.39
Total	155,882.68

The following totals show expenditures made by post quartermasters on general work at the posts in the Department of the East, for the purposes specified, payable from funds of fiscal year 1908, viz:

REGULAR SUPPLIES.

Repairs to heating and lighting apparatus in buildings and lighting systems	\$8,546.52
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INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Painting and erecting flagstaffs and fences.....	340.03
Foundations saluting guns.....	15.00
Repairs sentry boxes.....	125.50
Shelving and closets.....	95.42
Improvements cemeteries	503.00
Total	1,078.95

ARMY TRANSPORTATION.

Construction and repairs of water and sewer systems, interior plumbing, and crematories.....	18,435.72
Construction and repairs of roads, walks, bridges, grading, stone protection, railroad trestles, elevators, etc.....	22,726.66
Wharves and boathouses.....	28,320.24
Total	69,482.62

SHELTER, SHOOTING GALLERIES, AND RANGES.

Purchase of land for extension and improvement of ranges.....	15,086.74
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HEADSTONES, ETC.

Marking graves of soldiers and sailors on Isle of St. Michael, and for headstones.....	1,140.00
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SUMMARY.

Regular supplies.....	\$6, 548. 52
Incidental expenses.....	1, 078. 95
Army transportation.....	69, 482. 62
Shelter, shooting galleries, and ranges.....	15, 086. 74
Headstones	1, 140. 00
Total	93, 334. 83

The cost of construction work in charge of constructing quartermasters as reported to this office for the several posts in this department during the past year amounted to \$1,518,252.44.

This total, together with those above given, makes the grand total of the expenditures in the quartermaster's department in the Department of the East during the last fiscal year for construction, alteration, repairs, etc., \$1,767,469.95.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

Col. James N. Allison, Subsistence Department, reported for duty and relieved Col. H. B. Osgood as chief commissary of the Department of the East, July 22, 1907.

In the distribution of and care and preservation of supplies in the department all has been satisfactorily conducted, and no difficulties encountered, with few exceptions, these exceptions being due to inexperience among young officers acting as commissaries rather than to any neglect of duty. No measures of discipline have been deemed necessary.

Stores generally have been of excellent quality and promptly delivered. Small losses of stores to the amount of \$170.41, as against \$262.34 for the preceding fiscal year, were reported, and no money loss has been reported.

Arrangements have been made with local dealers and farmers near all posts, where practicable, for the purchase of vegetables by post commissaries. This plan has been carried out with success, and has resulted in obtaining at lower prices better supplies, including besides vegetables, butter, lard, chickens, and turkeys.

OVENS.

Through the commissary department new ovens have been installed at Forts Myer, Slocum, Wadsworth, and Washington Barracks, to replace those of obsolete pattern and those worn out through long use. Arrangements are being made for installing two more ovens of the permanent type at Forts Andrews and Terry, where new bakery buildings are being constructed.

Under my direction the chief commissary made all arrangements toward the equipment of the subsistence department at Pine Camp, N. Y., which were admirably carried out, and of which detailed mention was made in my report on the "Concentration and instruction camp at Pine Plains."

Total moneys received and disbursed, as reported by the chief commissary in this department, from July 23, 1907, to June 30, 1908, were \$547,144.03.

The losses of stores, property, and cooking and field baking apparatus, as reported by boards of survey during the fiscal year in this department, are as follows:

	Stores.	Property.	Cooking and baking apparatus.
Fort Adams, R. I.....	\$3.44		
Fort Andrews, Mass.....	1.50		\$115.89
Fort Banks, Mass.....		\$48.58	
Fort Constitution, N. H.....	6.00		
Fort Ethan Allen, Vt.....		99.79	86.40
Fort Hancock, N. J.....		11.60	188.01
Henry Barracks, P. R.....	7.55		
Fort Howard, Md.....	2.07	15.00	
Fort Hunt, Va.....	4.82		
Fort Jay, N. Y.....	2.16	44.22	27.66
Fort Levett, Me.....	1.20	8.78	
Madison Barracks, N. Y.....		21.43	
Fort Mansfield, R. I.....		8.92	
Fort McHenry, Md.....	4.17	.89	
Fort McKinley, Me.....		8.81	
Fort Mott, N. J.....		21.18	12.00
Fort Myer, Va.....	9.40	10.08	
Fort Niagara, N. Y.....	1.27		
Fort Ontario, N. Y.....		1.14	2.86
Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y.....	7.51	36.75	
Fort Preble, Me.....	5.30	5.86	
Fort Rodman, Mass.....	1.04		
San Juan, P. R.....	83.21	118.21	25.00
Fort Schnyler, N. Y.....	8.15		
Fort Terry, N. Y.....		84.28	
Fort Totten, N. Y.....		81.05	
Fort Wadsworth, N. Y.....		18.80	100.85
Washington Barracks, D. C.....		20.77	
Watervliet Arsenal, N. Y.....	.72		
Fort H. G. Wright, N. Y.....	17.21	10.69	
Camp Captain John Smith.....	59.19	.51	1,882.64
Total.....	170.41	611.24	1,790.20

BAKERS' AND COOKS' SCHOOLS.

The bakers' and cooks' schools, at Washington Barracks, under the supervision of Capt. F. J. Koester, Subsistence Department, have continued successfully. Through them this department is rapidly being supplied with trained bakers and cooks who are capable of preparing the army ration properly and of giving the maximum amount of nourishment and satisfaction. Good health, contentment, and greater efficiency among the soldiers have consequently resulted. The courses in these schools are very complete, covering the preparation of the army ration, the baking of all kinds of bread used both in garrison and in the field, besides fancy breads and pastries, and a practical course, including the proper method of the cooking of every article of food used in the army.

BAKERS' SCHOOL.

There have been 38 enlisted men on duty with the school during the year, disposed of as follows: Graduated as first-class bakers, 16; graduated as second-class bakers, 5; found deficient and relieved, 1; deserted, 1; died, 1; relieved on account of sickness, 1; at present under instruction, 13.

The work in the school for the year has been excellent, but the number graduated has been smaller than in previous years, due to the tearing down of the bakery for the purpose of constructing a new one and retaining the class on duty with the school that should have graduated in June, 1908, to help run the militia bakery at the camp of instruction, Pine Camp, N. Y.

During the year the Quartermaster-General has allotted \$14,000 for rebuilding the bakery and providing quarters for the students.

The bakers' school was sent to Pine Camp, N. Y., June 8, for the purpose of establishing a bakery to bake bread for the militia, and to give instruction to the militia in the baking of bread.

COOKS' SCHOOL.

There have been 118 enlisted men on duty with the school, disposed of as follows: Graduated as first-class cooks, 38; graduated as second-class cooks, 28; found deficient and relieved, 15; deserted, 1; relieved on account of sickness, 1; at present under instruction, 35.

The instruction has been excellent during the year, and it is believed that the graduates are good army cooks.

A large number of cooks should have graduated during the year, but it was necessary to retain the class scheduled to graduate in June in order to use them for instructors for militia cooks in the maneuver camps at Pine Plains and Chickamauga.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The duties of the chief surgeon were performed by Lieut. Col. William B. Davis, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, from July 1, 1907, to September 7, 1907, from which latter date the office has been administered by Col. Charles B. Byrne, Medical Corps, U. S. Army. During the temporary absence of the chief surgeon, Lieut. Col. Charles Richard, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, Fort Jay, N. Y., assumed charge of the office.

The mean strength of the Department of the East for the year, as shown by the reports of sick and wounded, was: Officers, 488; enlisted men, 10,234; total, 10,722.

The total admissions to sick report during the year for diseases in line of duty were 6,699; not in line of duty, 2,280; for injuries in line of duty, 2,170; not in line of duty, 272; an aggregate for all causes of 11,421, giving a rate of 1,065.19 per thousand of mean strength. The ratio for the year ending June 30, 1907, was 1,139.30 per thousand, a reduction of 74.11 per thousand.

As a result of the diseases, wounds, and injuries as indicated above the Government sustained a loss of 123,089 days' service, an average of 11.48 days for each officer and soldier, or 3.13 per cent of mean strength constantly noneffective, as compared with 3.63 per cent of mean strength for the year ending June 30, 1907.

Sixty-two deaths occurred during the year from the following causes: Diseases, 32; accidental injuries, 24; suicides, 3; accidental poisoning, 3.

Of those reported as having died of disease, 3 were commissioned officers; 45 of the deaths reported were from causes arising in the line of duty and 17 not in line of duty.

The ratio of deaths to the command was 5.78 per thousand of mean strength, as compared with 4.28 per thousand for the year ending June 30, 1907.

During the year the number of discharges for disability was 94. The total number discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability in

the department for the year ending June 30, 1907, was 102, showing a difference of 8 in favor of the past year.

Of the cases reported above, 30 were for diseases and injuries incurred in the service and in the line of duty; 27 for diseases and injuries incurred in the service, but not in line of duty, and 37 for diseases and injuries which existed prior to enlistment.

The following table copied from the chief surgeon's report gives a general view of the results of diseases and injuries at each post in the department:

	Mean strength.	Died.	Discharged for disability.	Transferred to Government Hospital for Insane.	Transferred to Army and Navy General Hospital, Hot Springs, Ark.	Transferred to Army and Navy General Hospital, Fort Bayard.	Total admissions.	Per cent of mean strength constantly non-effective.
Adams, Fort.....	352	2	2			2	456	3.60
Andrews, Fort.....	171		4				195	2.58
Banks, Fort.....	314	1	3	2			239	2.47
Constitution, Fort.....	68		1	2		1	102	3.23
Du Pont, Fort.....	247	2					64	.67
Ethan Allen, Fort.....	430	4	2		1		535	3.85
Greble, Fort.....	136				1	1	119	2.26
Hamilton, Fort.....	399	1	3		1		345	2.22
Hancock, Fort.....	458	1	2			3	304	2.04
Howard, Fort.....	246	4	2	1		1	303	4.97
Hunt, Fort.....	106	1	1	1			93	2.31
Jay, Fort.....	304	6	1	1	1	1	281	4.45
Levett, Fort.....	77						70	1.59
Madison Barracks.....	254	2	2	1	1	2	322	4.25
Mansfield, Fort.....	88	2				1	99	5.70
McHenry, Fort.....	247						303	3.45
McKinley, Fort.....	306		5	1	2		297	3.19
Michie, Fort.....	68	3	1				147	3.47
Monroe, Fort.....	816	3	13	3	6	4	779	4.40
Mott, Fort.....	174	1	3	1	1	2	305	3.43
Myer, Fort.....	509	1	4	1	1	2	637	4.48
Niagara, Fort.....	215		9	1		1	215	2.51
Ontario, Fort.....	124	2	2			2	151	3.34
Plattsburg Barracks.....	166			1		1	198	3.89
Porter, Fort.....	175	3	2			4	122	3.34
Preble, Fort.....	161		1				142	2.06
Revere, Fort.....	135	1	1				129	3.49
Rodman, Fort.....	84		1				96	3.23
Schuyler, Fort.....	196		2			1	157	1.75
Strong, Fort.....	157		3		2	1	170	2.93
Terry, Fort.....	234	2	2			2	228	2.65
Totten, Fort.....	523	2	6			3	660	3.10
Trumbull, Fort.....	55						58	1.06
Wadsworth, Fort.....	318	2	2	15	1	1	301	3.09
Warren, Fort.....	145		1			2	179	3.79
Washington Barracks.....	262	3	1				408	3.97
Washington, Fort.....	238	4	4			1	231	2.63
Williams, Fort.....	210		1			4	227	2.73
Wood, Fort.....	99						172	4.99
Wright, Fort H. G.....	224		4			1	191	2.09
Henry Barracks.....	147	3					176	3.35
San Juan.....	477	6	3				497	3.47
Camps, etc.....	612	1					609	.96
Total.....	10,722	62	94	15	18	46	1,421	3.13

From the chief surgeon's report it appears that the four posts in which men were the healthiest were Forts Du Pont, Trumbull, Levett, and Schuyler, each with less than 2 per cent of its mean strength constantly noneffective. From the same table it appears that the five posts where there is the most sickness are Forts Mansfield, Wood, Howard, Myer, and Jay, each with more than 4.45 per cent of the mean strength noneffective. The healthfulness of the camps was remarkable, having less than 1 per cent of sickness.

The number of cases of infectious diseases reported during the year was: Venereal, 1,460; influenza, 743; malarial fever, 269; measles, 133; mumps, 88; dysentery, 31; typhoid fever, 25; varioloid, 3; scarlet fever, 3; smallpox, 2; diphtheria, 1.

All of the varioloid cases were in Porto Rico, the smallpox cases were at Forts Myer and Ontario, and the scarlet fever cases at Forts Hamilton, Trumbull, and Madison Barracks. In this department there was the least amount of illness in July, and the greatest amount in December.

PREVAILING DISEASES.

Of the admissions to sick report during the year on account of disease, 16.2 per cent were from venereal causes and 25.3 per cent of all diseases were contracted not in the line of duty.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, there were 690 admissions to sick report due to malarial fever, while for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, there were only 269 admissions. This decrease is due chiefly to the vigorous campaign which has been carried on at various posts against mosquitoes, such as the screening of barracks, quarters, etc., the filling in of natural depressions, the cutting down of weeds, drainage, systematic use of crude oil in such places as it was found impossible to drain, and the use of mosquito bars by the command.

At Fort Monroe nearly all the cases of measles were due to infection brought to the post from other sources by casuals en route to or from Cuba, while at Fort Hancock and Fort Howard the epidemics of this disease were attributed to recruits from Columbus Barracks.

SANITARY CONDITION OF POSTS.

The general sanitary condition of posts in the department with few exceptions is reported as good.

HOSPITALS.

Hospitals in this department are in good condition, and when the minor repairs now being made are completed, will be of sufficient capacity for the needs of the command with few exceptions. At Fort Hamilton a new hospital is needed, and at Fort Monroe an infectious-disease ward should be built in connection with the hospital. All of the hospitals at coast artillery posts should have only steel ceilings, because of the shaking of the building during the firing of the heavy guns.

SERGEANTS' QUARTERS.

With few exceptions the quarters for sergeants, first class, Hospital Corps, are in good condition. New quarters are reported needed at Forts Hamilton and Warren. At Madison Barracks one heating stove, which is allowed for the building, is insufficient to maintain a proper temperature during the severe winters at the post on account of the exposed condition of the building. A modern heating system should be installed there, and also at the hospital.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The quality and quantity of medical supplies received at posts have been, as a rule, abundant and good, and all the supplies have been properly cared for. At some of the posts the supply table allowance is reported as being inadequate with reference to some of the more generally used drugs and dressings, necessitating frequent requisitions.

The field equipment at posts, with the exception of some of the coast artillery posts, is reported to be generally in good condition and in quantity sufficient for the present need of the garrisons.

During the year the dental surgeon has attended the commands at Forts Adams, Greble, Du Pont, Mott, Frankford Arsenal, Fort Schuyler, the Twenty-third Infantry at Madison Barracks and Fort Ontario, then about to leave for the Philippine Islands. During the camp of instruction at Pine Plains, N. Y., he attended to the more serious cases of the commands from Forts Porter, Niagara, Ethan Allen, Plattsburg Barracks, Madison Barracks, Fort Ontario, Fort Myer, and Washington Barracks.

Of the 4,097 civilians attached to posts in the department during the year, 1,192 were adult males, 1,457 adult females, and 1,448 children. Among these 123 births and 31 deaths were reported. Three hundred and ninety-four adult males (including general prisoners) were admitted to the different hospitals in the department.

HOSPITAL CORPS.

The course of instruction, as outlined in the Manual for the Medical Department, has been given at all of the posts. Three examinations for promotion to the grade of sergeant were held during the year. Discipline, with few exceptions, has been very good.

The personnel of the Medical Department on June 20, 1908, consisted of: One colonel, Medical Corps, chief surgeon; 1 lieutenant-colonel, Medical Corps; 9 majors, Medical Corps; 17 captains, Medical Corps; 36 contract surgeons; 1 dental surgeon; 41 sergeants, first class, Hospital Corps; 40 sergeants, Hospital Corps; 9 lance corporals, Hospital Corps; 188 privates, first class, Hospital Corps; 176 privates, Hospital Corps.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The chief paymaster of this department during the entire fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, has been Col. W. H. Comegys, assistant paymaster-general, U. S. Army, and the following-named paymasters have been on duty in this department:

Maj. George T. Holloway, paymaster, U. S. Army, since November 4, 1907, inclusive.

Maj. William G. Gambrill, paymaster, U. S. Army.

Maj. Timothy D. Keleher, paymaster, U. S. Army.

Maj. Manly B. Curry, paymaster, U. S. Army, to November 30, 1907, when transferred to the Department of the Gulf.

Maj. Delamere Skerrett, paymaster, U. S. Army, since December 30, 1907, inclusive.

Maj. John P. Hains, paymaster, U. S. Army, since February 5, 1908, inclusive.

Capt. Charles G. Dwyer, paymaster, U. S. Army.

Capt. Charles W. Fenton, paymaster, U. S. Army, to September 18, 1907, inclusive, when detail in department expired by limitation.

Capt. William S. Valentine, paymaster, U. S. Army, since January 25, 1908, inclusive.

Capt. George J. Holden, paymaster, U. S. Army.

All troops have been paid with promptness and regularity, and all funds received have been properly accounted for.

Funds have been received, transferred, disbursed, etc., as follows:

Debits.

Balance in hands of paymasters on July 1, 1907.....		\$390, 290. 01
Received since from—		
Treasury drafts.....	\$6, 528, 338. 81	
Soldiers' deposits.....	201, 146. 17	
Army paymasters' collections.....	122, 087. 41	
Transfers from officers serving in other departments.....	23, 975. 06	
		6, 875, 547. 45
Total to be accounted for.....		7, 285, 837. 46

Credits.

Disbursed on vouchers.....	\$6, 379, 248. 05	
Transferred to officers serving in other departments.....	17, 291. 03	
Deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States:		
Soldiers' deposits.....	201, 146. 17	
Army paymasters' collections.....	122, 087. 41	
Unexpended balances.....	110, 351. 67	
		6, 830, 124. 33
Balance in hands of paymasters, June 30, 1908.....		435, 713. 13
Total accounted for.....		7, 285, 837. 46

During periods of July and August, 1907, and June, 1908, certain militia organizations of the various states participated in the joint army and militia coast defense exercises, and the combined exercises at the camp of instruction, Pine Camp, Jefferson County, N. Y. During June of the present year paymasters were assigned to duty on the staff of the various commands to assist in the preparation of payrolls of such organizations and give such information and instructions as might be necessary. All militia organizations have been promptly paid at the designated time.

Majs. Delamere Skerrett and John P. Hains were detailed in the corps during the year to fill existing vacancies in the grade of major.

All paymasters in the department have performed the duties assigned to them in a satisfactory manner.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The duties of the chief ordnance officer of the department have been performed by Lieut. Col. O. B. Mitcham, who was assigned to the office upon the death of Col. John E. Greer. Colonel Mitcham has also been the commanding officer of the New York Arsenal, armament officer of the central armament district, and inspector of ordnance, the duties of all of which positions pertain in a more or less degree to the Department of the East.

The work of the chief ordnance officer for this department is essentially the same from year to year, and consequently Colonel Mitcham's report is practically the same as that of the chief ordnance officer contained in my annual report for the fiscal year 1907, the only variation being that the records of his office show that 1,255 requisitions, 480 reports of survey, and approximately, 175 inventory and inspection reports have been acted upon during the fiscal year 1908, instead of the number reported last year of these requisitions, reports of survey, and of inventory and inspection reports.

The work in the office of chief ordnance officer has been performed most satisfactorily, and the ordnance supplies furnished the troops in the department have been adequate and of the best quality.

THE SIGNAL CORPS.

The office of chief signal officer of the Department of the East has been filled by Lieut. Col. George P. Scriven during the fiscal year. Colonel Scriven keeps me informed of the progress of the work of his department by reports submitted at the end of each month.

The Department of the East includes 12 artillery districts, comprising 47 forts, the District of Porto Rico with 2 posts, and 10 independent or interior posts, a total of 59 posts. The work of the Signal Corps within the department consists chiefly of the installation of permanent fire-control communication systems, including post telephone systems in the artillery districts, maintenance of communication systems in districts having temporary fire-control installations, maintenance of telephone systems at the interior posts and in the District of Porto Rico, maintenance and operation of 9 post telegraph offices, supplying the 59 posts with the authorized means for visual signaling, installation and operation of wireless telegraph stations, and the maintenance of a school for enlisted men.

The personnel engaged in this work averaged, during the fiscal year 1908, 5 officers, 205 enlisted men, and 26 civilian employees.

Approximately 880 vouchers were paid during the year, covering the disbursement of about \$59,400. Seven hundred original requisitions were handled and about 400 purchase orders placed with commercial firms upon bids or letter proposals; in addition, considerable material was purchased by this office, the bills for which were paid by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army.

FIRE CONTROL.

The artillery districts in which there are temporary or permanent fire-control systems constructed or under way have their progress in per cent of total completion indicated in a monthly report rendered to me.

TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS.

The last report indicates that the temporary installations in the artillery districts of the Delaware, New London, and Narragansett are complete, and in the District of the Chesapeake within 15 per cent of completion.

PERMANENT INSTALLATIONS.

The last report of the chief signal officer indicates much progress in installing the permanent fire control of the forts in the department, especially in the artillery districts of Portland and Boston. Last year the Boston district had but three forts with complete permanent fire control; it now has six, and one fort (Heath) 97 per cent completed. The artillery district of Portland has almost a complete permanent installation of fire control in all its forts. Fort Lyon, having the least complete system, is within 15 per cent of completion.

Permanent installation within the eastern district of New York is completed, as is also the case in the southern district. The fire control of the artillery district of the Potomac and of Baltimore is the same as it was last year.

CABLE BOAT.

The cable boat *Cyrus W. Field*, assigned for cable work in this department, was employed in actual cable work 282 days of the year, and was undergoing repairs from September 1, 1907, to November 27, 1907, and from April 2, 1908, to April 27, 1908. However the crew of the cable ship were almost continually employed on cable work while the boat was in for repairs.

Of the 79 cables in use in the department, 14 were laid during the year, 6 were recovered, and 23 repaired.

The following remark of the commanding officer of the cable boat *Field* is worthy of consideration:

Inasmuch as 75 per cent of the work of laying cables is getting the shore ends into cable huts and out again for the numerous repairs necessary, it is essential that some expert on such matters should be represented on the installation of every cable hut.

It seems impossible for any person to appreciate the actual necessities in the case, except someone who has had long service in actual work of harbor submarine cables.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

There are five wireless telegraph stations operated by the Signal Corps in this department, located at Fort H. G. Wright, N. Y.; Fort Totten, N. Y.; Fort Wood, N. Y.; Fort Hancock, N. J.; and Fort Monroe, Va., and arrangements are being made to construct stations at Fort Levett, Me., and Fort Andrews, Mass. Although the scheme is to construct buildings designed for the purpose and termed "District signal stations" at the forts named, except Forts Totten and Wood, only the one at Fort Hancock has been completed. Present plans also provide for the installation of wireless sets aboard the tugs used during the militia exercises and target practice in the artil-

lery districts of Portland, Boston, New London, Eastern New York, Southern New York, and Chesapeake Bay.

Attention is invited to the fact that the standard fire-control systems in the eastern and southern artillery districts of New York were completed and transferred to the artillery during the year.

The fire-control work at Boston and Portland has progressed rapidly under the immediate charge of Capt. Carl F. Hartmann, Signal Corps, and in a very satisfactory manner. In the case of Boston Harbor the work should practically be completed and transferred to the artillery in the course of a few weeks. The completion of the remaining work in Portland Harbor is largely dependent upon the completion of stations to be constructed.

The temporary fire-control installations in New London and Narragansett districts need no comment; but it is recommended that the permanent systems in the former district upon which the defenses of the sound entrance to New York Harbor depend be taken up at the earliest practicable moment.

The work in the Narragansett district could probably be economically carried on at the same time with the work in the New London district.

Of the districts south of New York, the Delaware, Baltimore, Chesapeake, and Potomac districts, nothing further need be said here beyond the suggestion that after the completion of the New London district the Baltimore district be completed, after which the permanent installations of the Delaware district may be well undertaken.

PERSONNEL.

An increase of the enlisted personnel is absolutely necessary to perform all work which should be done by the Signal Corps in this department. The present force is capable only of continuing present duties, and these must, in a measure, be discontinued when it is essential to do work in connection with maneuver camps or artillery exercises with the militia. With the present force no satisfactory field work is possible.

Of ten men sent to the Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., to assist in the instruction of cadets in field telegraphy during April and May, 1908, six were under orders to go to Alaska. A small detachment was obtained for the installation of a necessary telegraph office and camp telephone system at Pine Camp, N. Y., by including the enlisted man on duty as disbursing clerk in this office. Lacking men, the usual Signal Corps field work was not attempted. A small detachment was obtained for the southern artillery district of New York during the militia exercises by sending five men from Fort Wood, all that could possibly be made available, and by using the men then in the district on fire-control work, this work being discontinued temporarily.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE, 1908.

During 1907 the required small-arms practice was completed by all troops in this department, except Companies E and H, Second Battalion of Engineers, at Washington Barracks, D. C., and the

Second Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, on temporary duty at the Jamestown Exposition, for whose practice it was impossible to obtain satisfactory ranges. The department has no long-distance ranges south of Fort Niagara. No state range could be obtained for the practice of these troops, and the effort made to use the range loaned by the Marine Corps, situated at Williamsburg, Va., was unsuccessful because that range was found to be unsafe.

INFANTRY, CAVALRY, AND ENGINEERS.

Before the end of the calendar year all troops in the department will have had the required practice, as indicated in the following table:

Post.	Companies.	Range.	Time.
Fort Ethan Allen.....	4 troops Eleventh Cavalry.	Post.....	July, August, and September.
	4 troops Fifteenth Cavalry.		
Fort Jay, N. Y.....	3 companies Twelfth Infantry.	Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y.	July.
	1 company Twelfth Infantry.	Sea Girt, N. J.....	September.
Madison Barracks, N. Y..	4 companies Twenty-fourth Infantry.	Stony Point, N. Y.....	July, August, and September.
	do.....	Camp Perry, Ohio.....	July and August.
Fort Myer, Va.....	2 troops Thirteenth Cavalry.	Fort Niagara, N. Y.....	Do.
	1 troop Thirteenth Cavalry.	Camp Perry, Ohio.....	August, September, and October.
	do.....	Sea Girt, N. J.....	September and October.
Fort Niagara, N. Y.....	4 companies Twelfth Infantry.	Post.....	April, May, and June.
Fort Ontario, N. Y.....	4 companies Twenty-fourth Infantry.	Stony Point, N. Y.....	July and August.
Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y.	4 companies Fifth Infantry.	Post.....	April, May, and June.
Fort Porter, N. Y.....	4 companies Twelfth Infantry.	Fort Niagara, N. Y.....	May, June, August, and September.
Washington Barracks, D. C.	2 companies Engineers.	do.....	July and August.
	Casuals.....	District of Columbia National Guard.	September and October.
Henry Barracks, P. R....	2 companies Porto Rico Regiment Infantry.	Post.....	January, February, and March.
San Juan, P. R.....	6 companies Porto Rico Regiment Infantry.	do.....	Do.

The regular and supplementary seasons for target practice of troops in this department were announced in General Order 27, c. s., these headquarters. It has been necessary to amend this order three times to have completed the target practice of the troops, because of the following reasons: (a) The failure to secure target ranges for the practice of troops stationed at posts having no ranges; (b) the fact that troops were either at Pine Camp or on duties connected with that camp at the time prescribed for practice before appropriations for the camp were made; (c) the absence of many officers from their commands on duty as competitors, as range officers at various competitions, and as instructors to artillery supports at Coast Artillery exercises.

The great disadvantage under which the troops of this department hold their practice this year can be seen in a glance at the before-given table. The troops of cavalry at Fort Myer have had their season for practice announced three different times, and their record practice will have been held at three different ranges, their prelimi-

nary instruction with record practice covering the period from frost in the spring to frost in the autumn.

Before the troops of the Department of the East assembled at Pine Camp only seven companies of these troops had held their record target practice for 1908. The work at Pine Camp ended and the camp was broken up on July 15, only three days prior to the date upon which competitors for the Atlantic competition were ordered to assemble at Fort Niagara, July 18. I therefore ordered the company competitors who had had no practice and were at Pine Camp to Fort Niagara, July 6, in order that they might secure some practice before the competition began.

The extra pay for superior marksmanship has caused enlisted men to take a great interest in target practice, for which they should have abundant time and opportunity afforded them, as target practice is the most important of all military instruction. All officers and enlisted men of a company should have target practice together. Officers should be with their companies especially during the preliminary and record practice. Because of proper ranges not being available the target practice has been hampered in the Department of the East this year, for which reason it is possible that the shooting done in this department may not compare favorably with that done by troops in departments more fortunate and favored in being better provided with target ranges.

Notwithstanding the decrease in the number of troops in this department the increased interest of the soldiers in target practice, because of extra pay given for superior marksmanship, is shown by the decided and continuous improvement since 1905 in firing, which is indicated by the following table:

Year.	Expert riflemen.	Sharp- shooters.	Marks- men.	Total.	General figure of merit.
1905.....	67	247	229	543	50.1
1906.....	107	541	255	908	59.7
1907.....	107	436	284	827	60.57

The target-practice season being late this year because of the instruction camp and other causes of interruption, all reports of firing have not been received as yet, so that the correct classification of marksmanship in the department can not be given for 1908.

COAST ARTILLERY CORPS.

For the first time all Coast Artillery Corps troops in this department will fire special course A this season. For the practice of the One hundred and fifty-sixth Company at Fort Constitution the National Guard of New Hampshire has courteously loaned the use of their range at Portsmouth, N. H., provided the butts are placed in the same condition after practice as when it began, for which purpose \$20 has been authorized. The troops in the artillery district of Boston will fire on a private range at Wakefield, Mass., for the hire of which \$780 has been allotted by the War Department. Through these arrangements these troops for the first time will have the regulation target practice.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

The prescribed revolver practice of the two batteries, E and D, Third Field Artillery, will be held at Fort Myer.

RANGES.

The four long-distance ranges of the department in their order of merit are as follows: Fort Niagara, N. Y., condition excellent; Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., condition very good; Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., condition fair; Madison Barracks, N. Y., condition fair.

During the past year extensive repairs and improvements on the range at Fort Niagara have been authorized by the War Department and work on it is nearly completed. These repairs and improvements will put the range in excellent condition. Some additional improvements have been authorized and funds for the same provided from the allotment to this department for the fiscal year 1909. When these repairs are completed the range will be of the capacity to have from 24 to 30 targets installed in excellent condition, very convenient. The Niagara range will be in every way adapted to and suitable for the army competitions.

Considerable work has already been done during the year on the range at Fort Ethan Allen, and good results have been accomplished there with the money allotted, supplemented by the labor of military convicts and the labor of the troops. This when finished in accordance with existing plans will be an excellent range with 16 targets for all distances up to 1,000 yards, and 16 targets on an echelon butt for all distances up to 600 yards. When completed the Ethan Allen range will be quite as large as the one at Fort Niagara. It was used during the past season for the try-out of competitors for the cavalry team for the national match, and for two years it has been used for the practice of the cavalry team after its selection. The captain and members of this year's cavalry team have expressed themselves as well pleased with the Ethan Allen range, and will ask for the use of it next year. Should it be desirable to establish a school of musketry in this department similar to the one in the Department of California, Fort Ethan Allen would be an excellent place, the buildings of two artillery batteries and the barracks and quarters pertaining thereto being available for such a school.

The Ethan Allen range is in need of proper electrical installation, which has been asked for, and should be installed before next season's practice commences, and also some other improvements should be made for which estimates have been forwarded.

The range at Plattsburg Barracks is very much in need of improvements, and is only suitable now for a small post. When a regiment is stationed at this post it is necessary in arranging for target practice to divide the season into three parts, one for each battalion, and it is impossible for all to complete their record practice before the beginning of competitions. An allotment of \$8,000 has been asked for to make necessary improvements on this range.

The range at Madison Barracks is in need of improvements. Plans for these have been made, and work in accordance with them directed, so far as available funds will admit. Funds have been provided for building a concrete or stone revetment wall for the

markers' pit. A glacis of earth will be built in front of this wall, falling toward the firing point, upon which skirmish figures can be placed. Directions have been given to fill in and level up the range with rock and earth. The necessary funds to make further needed improvements and put the range in good condition have been asked for. When these improvements have been made the range will be an excellent one; it is beautifully situated on the border of the lake, is provided with good water, and is an excellent and healthful camping site.

Madison Barracks should be provided with a suitable launch for carrying supplies and passengers to and from the post to the range. It would be a saving of transportation to supply the post with such a launch. A poor launch is now hired during the target season, the rent of which in two or three years would pay for a suitable launch.

The recent system inaugurated by the War Department of making a general allotment of funds from the appropriation for "Shooting galleries and ranges" to each department, and permitting the department commander to distribute the same to the several posts in his department, is an excellent change and a decided improvement upon former methods, and is in every way to be commended. It provides for the expenditure of these funds by one who is in close touch with the needs and requirements of each post in the department. From personal observation the department commander knows the repairs and improvements required at every range and the amount and kind of target practice held on each one. He can therefore make a careful, economic, and just distribution of these funds according to the needs of the department at the time funds are available. He can make provision for extensive repairs or improvements by the allotment of a stated amount for consecutive years until such repairs or improvements are completed.

My plan in expending such funds as are available has been to use them for the following purposes in the order named:

1. To complete the long-distance ranges used by a regiment or more of troops to whom additional pay is given for superior marksmanship.
2. For the repair and improvement of regulation ranges for the practice of the Coast Artillery Corps.
3. To construct shooting galleries.

So far the limited amount of funds available and the many repairs and improvements necessary on the larger ranges have made it impracticable to allot any funds except for the repair and improvement of ranges. In another year these ranges will be sufficiently completed to allow the expenditure of a part of the allotment for shooting galleries.

It is recommended that extra allotments from reserve funds in possession of the Quartermaster-General be made not later than May 15, in order that there may be time to properly advertise and secure bids, and thus expend the money economically. If money is allotted later there is not sufficient time to secure many bids or direct proper action from these headquarters.

ADDITIONAL RANGES REQUIRED.

I desire to call again the attention of the War Department to the fact that there are no ranges provided by the Government for troops stationed near Washington, New York, and Boston.

The nearest government ranges to which troops stationed near these cities could be sent for target practice are 474 miles from Washington, 313 miles from New York, and 108 miles from Boston. During the past four years the troops stationed near those cities have had their practice as shown in the following table:

Post.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Fort Jay, N. Y.	Sea Girt.	Sea Girt.	No practice.	Creedmoor.
Fort Myer, Va.	Mount Gretna	No practice.	Annapolis.	Annapolis.
Washington Barracks.	do.	Saunders.	do.	Do.
Artillery district of Boston.	Course B.	Course B.	Course B.	Course B.

Sea Girt, Mount Gretna, Creedmoor, and the Saunders range are under the control of the state authorities of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, and Maryland, respectively. The Annapolis range is the property of the Navy Department. None of these could be secured this year for the practice of troops during the regular target practice season. Two organizations, for whom it was impossible earlier to secure ranges, will be sent to Sea Girt for practice after the close of the militia practice season there, and will have their target practice the last of September and October. The Naval Academy range is no longer available, nor will be any of the state ranges for the practice of regular troops. The only satisfactory solution of the question would be the purchase of sufficient ground and the construction of suitable modern ranges in the vicinity of Washington, New York, and Boston. I recommend that this plan be carried out by the Government.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 177, WAR DEPARTMENT, 1907.

This order has, in general, been very satisfactory. Paragraph 4 enables the company commander to do on one day of the week that which he ought to do every day, and adds a trifle to the efficiency of organization, but it also discourages any attempt at systematic and satisfactory post administration. I believe that there will be no suitable remedy to this matter until provision is made for a proper army service corps.

It is not seen how a decrease in the number of articles prescribed to be carried in the pack by an infantryman can be made. It is recommended that the rubber poncho, now carried on the inside of the pack, be carried on the outside of the pack, in order that it may be readily utilized in the event of sudden showers while on the march.

It is further recommended that the entrenching tools be carried strapped to the blanket roll rather than attached to the belt. This arrangement will add much to the comfort of the men.

CLOTHING.

The present clothing is, in general, satisfactory. The service hat, olive drab flannel shirt, woolen service breeches, and leggings make an excellent field uniform for summer in the Temperate Zone. The serv-

ice coat affords sufficient additional protection at night and in cool weather. The khaki uniform is not satisfactory for field service and should be limited to garrison use in warm climates. The stiff brim campaign hat for enlisted men is not considered as good as the old style. I recommend the wearing of the campaign hat in the manner previously prescribed; that is, with the crease through the middle. The present hat cords should be discontinued both for officers and men. After short wear they are unsightly and add much additional weight to the hat. The metal ornaments on the service coat are very annoying when the overcoat is worn. This matter should be remedied. The high-top regulation marching shoe for infantry is not wholly satisfactory. The shoe is sufficiently heavy, but complaints are made that the stiff and high tops to the shoes cause blisters on and above the ankles. There seems to be an unnecessary amount of heavy leather in the tops of these shoes.

EQUIPMENT.

The equipment is, in general, satisfactory. For infantry stronger hooks for canteen and haversack should be provided. For cavalry there should be a better distribution of the weight carried by the horse. At present there is a considerable excess on the near side when the rifle is in the boot. The picket pin has outlived its usefulness and should no longer be carried by all the men of the troop. The attaching of the lariat to the halter ring is a source of inconvenience, even of danger, in rough and wooded country, and serves no purpose whatsoever under modern conditions.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

In auditing company fund accounts it is recommended that one noncommissioned officer, who shall be neither the first sergeant nor the mess sergeant, be included in the company council. This would enable the men of the company to have a knowledge at all times as to the condition of the fund and as to the disposition of that fund.

It is recommended that a limited amount of infantry drill be given to coast artillery troops during the indoor period, which would give much needed exercise for the men and prevent them from falling behind in the execution of such movements as they are likely to be called upon to perform.

The insignia on the sleeves of officers' overcoats should be embroidered, as the metal insignia is objectionable because of its catching in everything and frequently tearing the coat itself.

Congress should be asked to authorize the transportation of the wives and children of officers and noncommissioned officers who are traveling with troops, the contract for the movement to cover same. A limited quantity of professional books for noncommissioned officers upon their change of station should be transported free.

As far as practicable electricity or gas should be installed in all barracks and quarters, as the use of oil lamps involves danger of fire and injury to ceilings and walls.

It is recommended that each post be supplied with a few standard law works. Courts-martial are constantly having questions presented and on which erroneous rulings are made that would be properly

decided if any reference books were at hand. Furthermore, at each post there is at least one officer who would pursue such a line of reading if the books were convenient.

I concur in the recommendation of Maj. J. S. Mallory, who had charge of the Atlantic competition of 1908, viz:

That in skirmish fire 30-shot runs, with the present time limits, be substituted for the 40-shot runs, with the provision that at least 2 shots be fired at each halt.

Major Mallory states that the—

Forty rounds skirmish runs are very generally condemned. In the first place, they are said to be very severe upon the gun, several such runs materially reducing its accuracy and a large number of runs leaving it almost smooth for 6 inches from the chamber. In the second place, it is practically impossible to fire 40 rounds with any degree of accuracy within the time limits and under the present regulation that the piece must be kept fully locked and the toe on the ground till the last note of the trumpet call "Commence firing."

I recommend that the firing regulations be so amended as to exclude the post noncommissioned staff officers, even when they are distinguished marksmen, from taking part in the annual competitions, as when taking part they have to neglect the performance of important duties for which they have been specially chosen, and in time of war they would not be on the firing line.

I again recommend the introduction of firing at moving targets, single figures, and groups into our system of target practice. At present there is nothing further provided for expert riflemen than practice to keep up qualification and competition in the same class of firing year after year.

In warfare the target would usually be a moving one. Those capable of receiving instruction in time of peace should have training in shooting at moving targets. This would maintain their interest, by giving them something new to master, and, as the scheme developed, it could be introduced into competitions. Members of any prize-winning team should not be eligible to compete for the same medal again during the two years following, but should be used as instructors, retaining the advantages of the additional pay those two years. The third year these prize winners should be again allowed to compete for a medal. By this method many additional instructors would be supplied and the number of soldiers fitted to compete for medals would be increased.

DEPARTMENT AND PERSONAL STAFF.

In administering the affairs of this department I have been loyally and most efficiently assisted by all the officers of the department staff, and I take this occasion to express my acknowledgment of their valuable services. I wish to refer at this time also to the excellent discipline of the clerical force. All the clerks have most faithfully and cheerfully performed their duties.

My two personal aides, Capt. W. T. Johnston and Capt. A. J. Bowley, are officers of the highest attainments and characters, and I have found their able and loyal services most valuable, of which I am glad to have this opportunity to express my warm appreciation.

Respectfully submitted.

F. D. GRANT,

Major-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Atlanta, Ga., August 26, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908:

The undersigned assumed command of the department February 28, 1908, in compliance with General Orders, No. 25, War Department, series 1908.

The department commanders during the year were:

Brig. Gen. W. S. Edgerly, U. S. Army, July 1, 1907, to July 15, 1907, General Orders, No. 33, War Department, 1907, on which date he relinquished command of the department temporarily.

Under date of July 15, 1907, per General Orders, No. 147, War Department, 1907, Brig. Gen. J. M. K. Davis, U. S. Army, assumed temporary command of the department, relinquishing same on January 31, 1908, the date of his retirement from active service.

On January 31, 1908, Col. G. G. Greenough, Coast Artillery Corps, under the provisions of paragraph 193, Army Regulations, assumed temporary command of the department, relinquishing same on February 26, 1908, to avail himself of leave of absence for ten days granted under telegraphic authority of the War Department, dated February 25, 1908.

On February 26, 1908, Col. J. B. Kerr, Twelfth Cavalry, under the provisions of army regulation 193, assumed temporary command of the department, relinquishing same on February 27, 1908.

The personal staff of the undersigned and the department staff on June 30, 1908, were as follows: Second Lieut. R. M. Campbell, Twelfth Cavalry, A. D. C.; Lieut. Col. H. E. Robinson, adjutant-general; Lieut. Col. C. G. Woodward, inspector-general; Maj. L. E. Goodier, judge-advocate; Lieut. Col. S. R. Jones, chief quartermaster; Capt. Charles C. Clark, chief commissary; Col. Blair D. Taylor, chief surgeon; Lieut. Col. F. L. Payson, chief paymaster; Col. J. G. D. Knight, chief engineer officer (temporarily); Col. David A. Lyle, chief ordnance officer; Maj. Frank Greene, chief signal officer; Capt. H. C. Barnes, C. A. C., department artillery officer.

The following changes of department staff officers occurred during the year:

LOSS.

Col. R. D. Potts, chief of staff, relieved as chief of staff February 28, 1908, since which date no officer of the general staff has been assigned to duty at these headquarters.

Maj. Ira A. Haynes, adjutant-general, relieved as adjutant-general per paragraph 9, Special Orders, No. 120, War Department, 1907.

Maj. James W. Dawes, paymaster, U. S. Army, relieved as chief paymaster per General Orders, No. 92, Department of the Gulf, October 24, 1907. Assigned to duty in office of chief paymaster per paragraph 6, Special Orders, No. 145, Department of the Gulf, 1907.

Maj. A. Cronkhite, C. A. C., acting inspector-general, relieved as inspector-general of the department per paragraph 12, Special Orders, No. 2, War Department, 1908.

Col. J. W. Pope, deputy quartermaster-general, relieved as chief quartermaster per paragraph 7, Special Orders, No. 27, War Department, 1908.

Lieut. Col. W. W. Gray, medical department, relieved as chief surgeon per paragraph 4, Special Orders, No. 36, War Department, 1908.

GAIN.

Lieut. Col. H. E. Robinson, adjutant-general, per paragraph 9, Special Orders, No. 120, War Department, 1907.

Maj. A. Cronkhite, acting inspector-general, per paragraph 2, Special Orders, No. 109, War Department, 1907.

Col. J. G. D. Knight, chief engineer officer (temporarily), per paragraph 6, Special Orders, No. 141, War Department, 1907.

Maj. F. L. Payson, chief paymaster, per telegram of War Department, dated October 18, 1907.

Capt. H. C. Barnes, C. A. C., department artillery officer, per General Orders, No. 103, Department of the Gulf, 1907.

Lieut. Col. C. G. Woodward, inspector-general, per paragraph 19, Special Orders, No. 125, War Department, 1908.

Lieut. Col. S. R. Jones, chief quartermaster, per paragraph 7, Special Orders, No. 27, War Department, 1908.

Col. Blair D. Taylor, chief surgeon, per paragraph 2, Special Orders, No. 54, War Department, 1908.

The strength of the command on June 30, 1908, was 167 officers and 3,479 enlisted men.

The strength at posts as shown by post returns for June 30, 1908, was as follows:

Fort Barrancas, Fla., 459; Fort Caswell, N. C., 257; Fort Dade, Fla., 83; Fort De Soto, Fla., 101; Fort Fremont, S. C., 77; Fort Gaines, Ala., 1; Jackson Barracks, La., 257; Key West Barracks, Fla., 332; Fort Morgan, Ala., 208; Fort Moultrie, S. C., 446; Fort McPherson, Ga., 291; Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., 897; Fort Screven, Ga., 218; total, 3,627.

The artillery district of Mobile was established by General Orders, No. 167, War Department, series 1907, by taking from the artillery district of Pensacola, Forts Morgan and Gaines, Ala.

The following new companies of coast artillery were organized during the year:

One hundred and forty-fourth Company, Coast Artillery Corps (mine), at Fort Moultrie, S. C., from the Sixteenth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, per General Orders, No. 149, War Department, series 1907.

One hundred and forty-fifth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, at Fort Moultrie, S. C., from the Thirty-sixth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, per General Orders, No. 149, War Department, series 1907.

One hundred and sixty-second Company, Coast Artillery Corps (mine), at Key West Barracks, Fla., from the Twentieth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, per General Orders, No. 223, War Department, series 1907.

One hundred and sixty-third Company, Coast Artillery Corps (mine), at Fort Barrancas, Fla., from the Fifteenth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, per General Orders, No. 223, War Department, series 1907.

One hundred and sixty-fourth Company, Coast Artillery Corps (mine), at Jackson Barracks, La., from the Twenty-second Company, Coast Artillery Corps, per General Orders, No. 223, War Department, series 1907.

One hundred and seventieth Company, Coast Artillery Corps (mine), at Fort Morgan, Ala., from the Nineteenth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, per General Orders, No. 7, War Department, series 1908.

Forty-two enlisted men of the Thirty-first Company, Coast Artillery Corps, were transferred from Fort Caswell, N. C., to Fort McHenry, Md., on August 14, 1907, to form the One hundred and forty-first Company, Coast Artillery Corps, at that post, per General Orders, No. 149, War Department, 1907.

The Second Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, returned to Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., on December 13, 1907, from detached service at the Jamestown Exposition, Norfolk, Va.

The Seventy-ninth Company, Coast Artillery Corps, returned to Fort Caswell, N. C., on December 8, 1907, from detached service at Fort Monroe, Va.

The headquarters, band, First and Third Squadrons, Twelfth Cavalry, under command of Col. J. B. Kerr, Twelfth Cavalry, left Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., on September 28, 1907, for Canton, Ohio, where they participated in the dedication ceremonies of the McKinley memorial monument, rejoining post on October 2, 1907.

The Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, under command of Capt. A. H. Huguet, Seventeenth Infantry, left Fort McPherson, Ga., on September 28, 1907, for Canton, Ohio, where it participated in the dedication ceremonies of the McKinley memorial monument, rejoining post on October 2, 1907.

The First Band, Sixteenth, Seventy-eighth, Ninety-ninth, and One hundred and forty-fourth Companies, Coast Artillery Corps, left Fort Moultrie, S. C., on August 14, 1907, pursuant to instruction from the War Department, dated April 15, 1907, for Statesburg, S. C., for duty in connection with the unveiling of a monument to General Sumter. The command returned to its station same date.

The following enlisted men were lost during the year: Expiration of enlistment, 1,078; disability, 55; general court-martial, 129; discharged under orders, 123; retired, 10; diseases, 8; accident, 2; drowned, 1; suicide, 2; murder or homicide, 1; deserted, 203.

Officers absent from the department June 30, 1908, were as follows:

Organization.	Leave.	Detached service.	Sick.	Total.
Department staff.....		1		1
Staff.....		1		1
Cavalry.....	3	15		18
Artillery.....	4		2	6
Infantry.....		5		5
Aggregate.....	7	22	2	31

Owing to a shortage of the mileage appropriation the undersigned was unable to make any personal inspection of the troops and posts in the department, hence this report consists of little more than a statement of facts and a review of the reports of department staff officers, which are summarized as follows:

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The business of the adjutant-general's department has, since July 5, 1907, been conducted by Lieut. Col. H. E. Robinson, adjutant-general, who, upon that date, relieved Maj. Ira A. Haynes, adjutant-general, who was under orders for Philippine service. The operation of this department has been entirely satisfactory; the work has been done efficiently and promptly.

The clerical force, including the clerks in the judge-advocate's office and the office of the inspector-general and the inspector of small-arms practice, comprises eight civil-service clerks assigned to these headquarters, one civilian temporarily employed to replace one clerk absent in Cuba, and two enlisted men. Three messengers, under civil-service rules, are assigned to duty at these headquarters, and in addition one enlisted man is so employed; one messenger being used temporarily as a clerk—recording—he having passed the civil-service examination and is now awaiting an appointment as clerk. All the clerks are efficient and have shown commendable willingness to serve at their desks overtime or out of hours, whenever an accumulation of business or unusual circumstances have demanded their attention. During the maneuver camp at Chickamauga Park, when three clerks and one messenger from these headquarters were absent at the camp, and during the time it was necessary to furnish relief for sufferers from the cyclone of April 24, the clerks at times were kept at their desks after hours, but the number of hours employed during the month was not in excess of that authorized.

With the present force of clerks, the business of the office can be conducted without delay. In carrying out the provisions of General Orders, No. 191, War Department, series of 1905, relative to the preparation, by staff officers, of indorsements for the signature of the department commander and the adjutant-general, and to save the labor of preparing all suggested indorsements in this office, instructions were issued directing that the action recommended by staff officers be submitted on a slip of paper, in indorsement form, ready for signature; should the suggested indorsement be accepted, it is then signed and returned to the office whence it came, for attaching,

recording, and mailing. Whenever the suggested indorsement is not accepted, it is returned, with such modifications or changes as are deemed necessary, to the office whence it came and a new or corrected slip is prepared, attached to the paper, and returned for signature. This system has been found to work satisfactorily, and enables the business to be conducted with greater dispatch.

It is recommended that the clerks at these headquarters be paid: One chief clerk, at \$1,800 per annum; one clerk, at \$1,400 per annum; two clerks, at \$1,200 per annum; five clerks, at \$1,000 per annum.

Up to June 30, 1908, the pay of clerks was: One chief clerk, at \$1,400 per annum; one clerk, at \$1,200 per annum; seven clerks, at \$1,000 per annum.

Effective July 1, 1908, the pay of the chief clerk was increased to \$1,600, and one of the clerks who had been receiving \$1,000 was increased to the \$1,200 class; even with this increase it is believed that the clerks at these headquarters are receiving less than the amounts received by clerks at other department headquarters performing the same grade and quantity of work.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Maj. Adelbert Cronkhite, Coast Artillery Corps, was detailed for duty as inspector-general by Special Orders, No. 109, War Department, 1907, and took charge July 21, 1907.

He was relieved from duty at these headquarters by Special Orders, No. 2, War Department, 1908, and was succeeded in office by Lieut. Col. C. G. Woodward, C. A. C., acting inspector-general, who took charge February 5, 1908, per Special Orders, No. 25, War Department, current series, and General Orders, No. 19, headquarters Department of the Gulf, February 5, 1908.

The operation of this department has been entirely satisfactory; work done promptly and efficiently.

During the year special investigations and inspections of posts, recruiting offices, money accountability, and public property have been made as follows: Four special inspections, involving reports on conduct of officers; two investigations of schools and colleges to determine whether an officer of the army should be detailed thereat as military professor; two inspections of garrison posts; one inspection of garrisoned subpost; three inspections of national cemeteries; one inspection of recruiting office.

INSPECTION OF DISBURSING OFFICER'S ACCOUNTS.

Fourteen inspections of money accounts of officers of the Corps of Engineers; seventeen inspections of money accounts of post quartermasters and commissaries; eight inspections of final money accounts of constructing quartermasters and post quartermasters and commissaries (made by special inspector); two inspections of money accounts of depot quartermaster and commissary.

INSPECTIONS AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

Seventeen inspections of money accounts as follows: First period, 6; second period, 6; third period, 5.

INSPECTION OF PROPERTY.

Ninety-three inventory and inspection reports acted on by the inspector-general; nineteen inventory and inspection reports acted on by special inspectors; money value of stores acted upon, \$64,958.04; one hundred public animals acted upon, the value of 71 being \$7,654; the value of the balance—29—was not stated on the inventories.

SUMMARY.

Six special inspections; three inspections of posts; three inspections of national cemeteries; one inspection of recruiting office; fifty-eight accounts of disbursing officers; one hundred and twelve actions on inventory and inspection reports; fifteen actions on inventory and inspection reports of public animals; total, 198.

Reports in each case forwarded as required by orders and regulations.

Since February 1, 1908, the work of this department has been restricted to such inspections as could be made without expenditure of funds for transportation of the inspector. All such local work has been completed.

The inspector-general makes the following recommendation, which is concurred in by the department commander:

That commanding officers be authorized to prescribe a uniform consisting of olive drab flannel shirt, breeches, belt, leggings, russet shoes, and service hat, to be worn on practice marches, during maneuvers in camps of instruction, and at drills at posts during the hot season of the year whenever the wearing of such uniform will, in their opinion, add to the efficiency and comfort of their commands.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The operations of this department have been satisfactorily conducted during the year.

GENERAL COURTS-MARTIAL.

Three commissioned officers were tried, one of whom was tried twice. They were charged as follows: Violation of twentieth article of war, 1; violation of thirty-eighth article of war, 1; violation of sixty-first article of war, 2; violation of sixty-second article of war, 2.

Six military convicts were tried—four for breaking confinement; one for violating the twenty-first article of war; one for violating the twenty-first article of war and assaulting a soldier of the guard.

Enlisted men were tried as follows: Total number of cases, 200; total number of different men tried, 195; number of acquittals, 1; number of sentences disapproved, 1.

The following table shows the total number of violations of the various articles of war with which men tried by general court were charged: Seventeenth article of war, 16; twentieth article of war, 1; twenty-first article of war, 9; thirty-second article of war, 21; thirty-third article of war, 7; thirty-eighth article of war, 11; thirty-ninth article of war, 10; fortieth article of war, 3; forty-seventh article of war (50 of these cases arose outside this department), 98; fifty-first article of war, 1; sixtieth article of war, 7; sixty-second article of war, 121.

GARRISON COURTS-MARTIAL.

Number of cases tried, 14; number of different men tried, 14; number of acquittals, 4.

Articles of war charged to have been violated: Seventeenth, 1; thirty-second, 2; thirty-third, 2; thirty-eighth, 1; sixty-second, 18.

SUMMARY COURTS.

Number of cases tried, 2,073; number of different men tried, 1,145; number of acquittals, 71.

Articles of war charged to have been violated: Seventeenth, 35; twentieth, 1; twenty-fourth, 1; thirty-first, 6; thirty-second, 649; thirty-third, 432; thirty-fourth, 2; thirty-sixth, 1; thirty-eighth, 90; fortieth, 4; sixty-second, 1,437.

A comparison with the report for last year indicates an improvement in discipline so far as it is indicated by the number of trials by courts-martial.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to this department were performed by the chief quartermaster and officers detailed at the several stations. Construction work is under the immediate charge of the Quartermaster-General, whose orders are carried out by officers at the several stations detailed as constructing quartermasters. There was on hand July 1, 1907, and received during the fiscal year from appropriations pertaining to the Quartermaster's Department a total of \$1,068,500.67, of which amount \$971,318.15 was disbursed or transferred, leaving a balance of \$97,182.52 on hand June 30, 1908, the bulk of which, together with additional sums covered by special estimates, but not yet remitted, will be required to meet obligations entered into prior to the close of the fiscal year. The foregoing statement does not include large sums received on direct estimates by constructing quartermasters at posts in the department acting under immediate orders of the Quartermaster-General of the Army. Funds for all purposes have been promptly supplied and the indebtedness of the department has been met without delay.

REGULAR SUPPLIES.

The fuel, forage, and straw required at the several posts and stations in the department have been, as a whole, satisfactorily supplied under formal contracts, informal agreements, and by purchase in open market. All calls made upon contractors have been satisfactorily met and, so far as known to this office, supplies finally delivered have been in accordance with contract requirements, except at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., at which post the action of boards of officers was necessary in connection with straw tendered for delivery. In each and every case the board recommended rejection of the straw, and its action was accepted by the contractor without demur.

Advertisements issued in the spring of 1907 for forage and straw required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, resulted in the re-

ceipt of many proposals largely in excess of the rates theretofore prevailing in the vicinity of nearly all the posts. Rejection and readvertisement followed, but no material reductions in the rates originally bid were secured. A third rejection and readvertisement met with no better results in many cases. The reasons advanced for the abnormal prices were the uncertainty of the crop and increased charges for all labor and material. Correspondence had with officers of the Quartermaster's Department in other cities, in the effort to secure supplies at reasonable prices, developed that similar conditions prevailed at all points east of St. Louis. Finally the Quartermaster-General directed the purchase of the supplies from time to time, as required, in open market, at most of the posts during the fiscal year. Such purchase or purchases, under short notice to bidders, were accordingly made at considerable saving to the department.

On account of the mild winter 80 per cent of contracts for fuel generally has been sufficient to meet the needs of the posts for the entire year. In some instances where less than 80 per cent was required contractors agreed to reduce contracts accordingly, and at Forts Jackson and St. Philip, La., the entire contract for coal and wood was waived.

By reason of unusual drought at Key West Barracks, Fla., and the consequent necessity for running the pumping and distilling plant continuously, it was found necessary to increase contracts for steam coal to 960,000 pounds, and to make informal agreements for an additional 600,000 pounds. As a rule care has been taken to avoid an accumulation of supplies. The quantity of coal stored at Fort McPherson is, however, very large, and has been brought about by the withdrawal of more than two-thirds of the garrison for duty in Cuba, and to the declination of contractors to waive right of delivery under their contracts. The matter has been the subject of correspondence with the post authorities and considered in making contracts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, and a gradual decrease will result.

Other regular supplies have been provided by issue from general depots or by purchase in the vicinity of the posts, as found to be advantageous to the department.

BARRACKS AND QUARTERS.

The work under this appropriation has been of a routine character, so far as the offices of the chief quartermaster of the department and post quartermasters have been concerned. A large volume of new construction work has been done under the supervision of constructing quartermasters acting under the immediate orders of the Quartermaster-General. The accompanying statement shows actual expenditures under annual allotment for repairs to public buildings in the department, including additional allotment made from time to time for that purpose.

Station.	Barracks and quarters.	M. P. E., including cost of equipage.	Construction and repair of hospitals.	Quarters for hospital stewards.	R. S. for repairs to bakeries only.	I. E. for erection and repair of flagstaff.
Fort Barrancas.....	\$2,060.00	\$300.15	\$566.81	\$33.15		
Fort Pickens.....	912.00					
Fort Caswell.....	1,836.00	228.30	930.36	109.00	\$43.50	
Fort Dade.....	1,595.00	13.00	57.74		279.90	
Fort De Soto.....	1,026.35	300.00		180.55	41.00	
Fort Fremont.....	581.71	28.50	543.50		49.10	
Jackson Barracks.....	2,532.00		236.89	50.00	79.80	
Fort St. Philip.....	407.00					
Key West Barracks.....	2,345.87	25.00	283.85	19.52		
Fort McPherson.....	3,617.62	513.45	115.02		96.00	
Fort Morgan.....		9.95	227.94			\$435.50
Fort Moultrie.....	2,435.00	117.75	117.50		10.00	
Fort Sumter.....	88.00					
Fort Oglethorpe.....	3,537.50	98.25	1,247.20	55.25	133.00	
Fort Screven.....	1,865.00	1,000.00	29.00		38.00	
	24,729.05	2,634.35	4,355.81	447.47	770.30	465.50

The following list gives buildings completed during the fiscal year and those in course of construction, as reported by constructing quartermasters:

Fort Barrancas, Fla.: Buildings completed, 1 quartermaster's stable, 1 coal shed, 1 corral. In course of construction, none.

Fort Caswell, N. C.: Buildings completed, none. In course of construction, 1 mess hall.

Fort Dade, Fla.: Buildings completed, 1 commanding officer's quarters, 1 field officer's quarters. In course of construction, lavatory and mess hall, 1 gymnasium.

Fort De Soto, Fla.: Buildings completed, none. In course of construction, none.

Fort Fremont, S. C.: Buildings completed, none. In course of construction, none.

Jackson Barracks, La.: Buildings completed, none. In course of construction, none.

Fort St. Philip, La.: Buildings completed, 1 barracks, 1 lavatory, 1 mess hall and kitchen, 1 captain's quarters, 3 lieutenant's quarters, 1 searchlight shelter, 1 bakery, 1 boathouse, 1 post exchange. In course of construction, none.

Fort Jackson, La.: Buildings completed, none. In course of construction, none.

Key West Barracks, Fla.: Buildings completed, 1 band stand. In course of construction, none.

Fort Taylor, Fla.: Buildings completed, none. In course of construction, none.

Fort McPherson, Ga.: Buildings completed, 1 quartermaster's stable, 1 extension to wagon shed. In course of construction, none.

Fort Morgan, Ala.: Buildings completed, 1 quartermaster's stable, 1 quartermaster's workshop, 1 searchlight shelter, 1 ordnance storehouse, 1 additional room to ordnance storehouse, 1 fire station, 1 oil house, 1 bakery, 1 civilian employee's quarters, 1 superintendent of construction quarters. In course of construction, 1 barracks, 1 mess hall and lavatory, 1 gymnasium and bowling alley, 1 dark room and morgue.

Fort Moultrie, S. C.: Buildings completed, 1 dead house. In course of construction, none.

Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.: Buildings completed, 1 stable, guardhouse, 1 shelter for mounted guard, 1 schoolhouse. In course of construction, none.

Fort Screven, Ga.: Buildings completed, none. In course of construction, none.

ARMY TRANSPORTATION.

The following special movements of troops occurred for the purposes indicated, viz: Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, from Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., consisting of 18 officers and 286 enlisted men, and the Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, from Fort McPherson, Ga., consisting of 6 officers and 120 enlisted men, left their respective posts on September 28, 1907, for Canton, Ohio, to participate in the dedication ceremonies of the monument to the late President McKinley. They returned to their posts on October 3. The cost of transportation of these movements was as follows:

Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, from Fort Oglethorpe to Canton, Ohio, and return-----	\$13, 488. 68
Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, from Fort McPherson, Ga., to Canton, Ohio, and return-----	4, 105. 20
Total-----	17, 593. 88

The First Band, and the Sixteenth, Seventy-eighth, Ninety-ninth, and One hundred and forty-fourth Companies, Coast Artillery Corps, comprising 276 officers and enlisted men, left Fort Moultrie, S. C., on August 14, 1907, for Statesburg, S. C., for duty in connection with the unveiling of a monument to the late General Sumter. The command returned to its station the same day. The cost of transportation in this case was \$938.40.

There were transported, by all kinds of transportation, within the department, 112,743 passengers, 583 animals, \$576,818.49 in funds, 21,443,565 pounds of stores of all kinds, and 23 remains of deceased persons.

The total number of public animals on hand and received during the fiscal year were 721 cavalry horses, 108 draft and riding horses, and 318 mules. Of these there were transferred, sold, or died 89 cavalry horses, 9 draft and riding horses, and 23 mules, leaving on hand on June 30, 1908, 632 cavalry horses, 99 draft and riding horses, and 295 mules.

Accounts for railroad, express, and water transportation payable at this office under circular Quartermaster-General's Office, February 5, 1904, have been promptly settled, and the outstanding indebtedness is small.

Improvement of and repairs to water and sewer systems have been made as authorized from time to time from this appropriation, and no serious complaint of inadequacy or defects have reached here during the year, except in connection with fresh-water supply at Key West Barracks, which again presented itself in August. A long drought then made necessary the continuous operation of the pumping and distilling plant for about a month, at considerable additional cost for labor and fuel. Again, in January, 1908, a similar condition arose, and again resort was had to distillation, day and night; this continued for several months. All possible measures for relief of the situation have been taken, but whenever a drought

occurs at Key West Barracks there appears to be no other way of supplying resulting deficiency of fresh water than by continuous operation of the distilling plant.

The tubular deep well which was under construction at Fort Morgan, Ala., at the commencement of the fiscal year was sunk to a depth of 110 feet on July 18, when potable water not being obtained, the contract was closed and the project abandoned.

The character of the water at other posts in the department is stated to be as follows:

Fort Barrancas, Fla.: Abundant in quantity and of good quality.

Fort Caswell, N. C.: Sufficient for present needs but of poor quality.

Fort Dade, Fla.: Supply ample but is hard and brackish.

Fort Fremont, S. C.: Abundant in quantity but hard and brackish.

Jackson Barracks, La.: Supply for purposes other than drinking and cooking (for which purposes rain water stored in cisterns is used) is drawn from the Mississippi River.

Key West Barracks, Fla.: The supply is treated of in remarks heretofore made.

At Forts De Soto, Fla., McPherson, Ga., Moultrie, S. C., Oglethorpe, Ga., and Screven, Ga., the water supply appears to be satisfactory both as to quantity and quality.

The harbor-boat service of the department is in fairly satisfactory condition both as to material and personnel. The increasing demands upon it for artillery purposes are being met by the supply of additional steamers and it is understood that further supply is contemplated.

The following-named boats were in service on June 30, 1908:

At Fort Barrancas, Fla.: Steam lighter *Poe*, launch *Captain Page*.

At Fort De Soto, Fla.: Steamer *General Timothy Pickering*, launch *Lieut. William E. Shipp*.

At Fort Fremont, S. C.: Launch *Elder*.

At Fort St. Philip, La.: Launch *Lancaster*.

At Key West Barracks, Fla.: Launch *Lieut. Burnham*.

At Fort Morgan, Ala.: Steamer *General R. N. Batchelder*, launch *Pleasanton*.

At Fort Moultrie, S. C.: Steamer *General French*, launch *Lieut. Walter H. Lee*.

At Fort Screven, Ga.: Tug *Gibbon*.

Sixty-two civilian employees (officers and crews) are employed in the operation of this service, the total cost of which for wages of crews, repair and maintenance, etc., was \$94,880.79 for the fiscal year.

In addition to the regular harbor boat service considerable water transportation was contracted for during the year at a total cost of \$21,472, being approximately \$16,058 for transportation purposes and \$5,414 for artillery purposes.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE.

The clothing and equipage required for the troops in the department has been shipped from depots of satisfactory quality. The only complaint of consequence has been in connection with the shipment to

posts from depots of shoes of sizes other than those called for on requisitions, due to the effort to absorb stock on hand. It is understood, however, that this matter has been adjusted, or will be at an early date.

JOINT ENCAMPMENTS AND MANEUVERS.

In the summer and fall of 1907, under the provisions of General Orders, No. 99, War Department, 1907, joint encampments of regular troops and organized militia were held in artillery districts of the department, as follows:

Charleston, July 5-15.—Headquarters, Fort Moultrie, S. C.; militia participating, 4 batteries artillery from Alabama, 10 companies Third Infantry from South Carolina.

Savannah, July 10-25.—Headquarters, Fort Screven, Ga.; militia participating, 4 companies Fourth Infantry and 4 companies heavy artillery from Georgia.

Pensacola, October 19-29.—Headquarters, Fort Barrancas, Fla.; militia participating, 9 companies First Infantry and 3 companies Second Infantry from Florida.

Tampa, October 19-29.—Headquarters, Fort De Soto, Fla.; militia participating, bands First and Second Infantry and 8 companies Second Infantry from Florida.

The cost of establishing and maintaining camps of the regular troops was borne from the regular appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department. The cost of establishment and maintenance of camps for the militia (under the direction of the department commander) was paid from the appropriation for "Encampments and maneuvers, organized militia, 1908," in amounts as follows:

Artillery district of Charleston.....	\$4,427. 54
Artillery district of Savannah.....	1,843. 33
Artillery district of Pensacola.....	7,719. 97
Artillery district of Tampa.....	6,311. 00
Total	20,301. 84

The cost of transporting the militia referred to from their home stations to the encampments and return was also charged to the appropriation specified, as follows:

Organized militia of Alabama	\$4,314. 40
Organized militia of South Carolina.....	1,143. 45
Organized militia of Georgia.....	1,233. 40
Organized militia of Florida.....	8,410. 42
Total	15,101. 85

Other joint army and militia coast defense exercises were ordered in General Orders, No. 44, current series, War Department, to take place in the summer of 1908, and in accordance therewith encampments were established in the following-named artillery districts of this department during May and June:

Cape Fear River, June 1-10.—Headquarters, Fort Caswell, N. C.; militia participating, 15 companies infantry from North Carolina.

Mobile, May 1-10.—Headquarters, Fort Morgan, Ala.; militia participating, 8 companies coast artillery from Alabama.

Savannah, May 15-25.—Headquarters, Fort Screven, Ga.; militia participating, 4 companies Coast Artillery Corps and 7 companies infantry from Georgia.

Tampa, May 18-28.—Headquarters, Fort De Soto, Fla.; militia participating, 2 bands and 9 companies infantry from Florida.

Charleston, June 18-28.—Headquarters, Fort Moultrie, S. C.; militia participating, 2 regiments of infantry from South Carolina.

The exact expense of the militia encampments in connection with these exercises can not now be stated. It will closely approximate \$25,000, and the cost of transportation, which was arranged under the provisions of army regulation 460 and Circular No. 8, current series, from these headquarters, will be in the neighborhood of \$18,000, all of which will be borne from the appropriation for "Encampments and maneuvers, organized militia," fiscal year 1908. Full reports on above exercises have already been forwarded.

RECRUITING SERVICE.

In addition to its ordinary duties, there has devolved upon this office the conduct of the quartermaster's affairs of 8 permanent recruiting stations, together with those of the numerous auxiliary and temporary stations established from time to time, and including the disbursement of funds pertaining thereto. The permanent stations are as follows: One each at Atlanta, Ga.; Birmingham, Ala.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Memphis, Tenn.; Nashville, Tenn.; Raleigh, N. C.; Savannah, Ga.

NATIONAL CEMETERIES.

There are nine national cemeteries under charge of this office, viz: Andersonville, Ga.; Barrancas, Fla.; Beaufort, S. C.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; St. Augustine, Fla.; Corinth, Miss.; Florence, S. C.; Marietta, Ga.; Shiloh, Tenn.

The disbursement of funds and supervision of matters pertaining to the above-named cemeteries are attended to by this office.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The operations of this department have been satisfactory throughout the fiscal year.

Funds received	\$169, 181. 93
Funds disbursed	160, 796. 97
Balance on hand	8, 384. 96
At posts in the department:	
Funds received	197, 736. 88
Funds disbursed	195, 091. 13
Stores on hand	565. 46
Gain: Surplus cash, reclamation, and sales at auction	224. 93
Net loss	340. 53

TRANSPORTATION.

Stores have, as a general rule, reached their destination in due time, good condition, and without loss.

SUPPLY.

The stores supplied to posts in the department have been ample in quantity and, as a general rule, of excellent quality and moderate price. In a few instances, where the demand for certain articles has fallen off for unaccountable reasons, transfers have been made from one post to another to avoid loss to the Government. The preference of members of the various garrisons for articles of particular brands have been considered in making calls on purchasing commissaries whenever possible.

Articles not included in the authorized list of stores for posts in the United States have been furnished as exceptional articles when called for, with the exception of Key West Barracks, Fla., to all posts. Under authority of the Secretary of War, Key West Barracks is supplied with sales stores authorized for Cuba.

Beef, fresh vegetables, and ice, and in some instances other perishable articles, are purchased locally at posts, being more economical and to the best interests of the Government.

FUNDS.

Funds for disbursement by post commissaries and recruiting officers located in this department have been furnished by this office. For the convenience of officers concerned funds for this purpose are carried in four separate depositories.

No loss of funds by theft or otherwise has been reported.

JOINT ARMY AND MILITIA COAST DEFENSE EXERCISES, 1907-8.

State and post.	Period 1907.	Total expended.
South Carolina: Fort Moultrie.....	July 6-15	\$712.45
Alabama: Fort Moultrie, S. C.....	do	693.63
Georgia: Fort Screven.....	July 11-24	996.86
Florida: Fort Barrancas, Fort Dade, Fort De Soto.....	Oct. 19-28	2,863.22
Total expended.....		\$5,266.16
Allotted.....		9,000.00
Difference deposited to credit of Treasurer United States.....		3,744.42

The following statements cover the operation of the subsistence department in connection with the joint army and militia coast defense exercises held in this department, 1908:

State and post.	Period.	Total expended.
Alabama: Fort Morgan.....	May 1-10	\$263.06
Florida:		
Fort Barrancas.....	Canceled.....	
Fort Dade.....	May 21-31	669.57
Fort De Soto.....	do	426.13
Georgia: Fort Screven.....	May 15-25	996.65
North Carolina: Fort Caswell.....	June 1-10	1,664.93
South Carolina.....	June 17-27	2,539.43
Total.....		\$6,559.76
Allotted chief commissary department.....		9,660.00

RELIEF OF CYCLONE SUFFERERS IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.

In the latter part of the month of April, 1908, the Southern States were swept by a cyclone, which caused a loss of life and extreme suffering and privation in the sections affected.

The Subsistence Department was intrusted with the relief work incident thereto and, acting under instructions from these headquarters, Captain Clark investigated conditions at several points in the State of Georgia, purchased subsistence supplies to the value of \$690.16, and turned them over to the several relief committees for proper distribution.

This relief work was transferred to the Quartermaster's Department under joint resolution of Congress approved May 11, 1908.

MEDICAL CORPS.

The operations of the Medical Corps have been satisfactory throughout the fiscal year.

The personnel of the Medical Corps present for duty at the close of the fiscal year was as follows: One colonel, Medical Corps; 3 majors, Medical Corps; 6 captains, Medical Corps; 11 contract surgeons; 1 contract dental surgeon; 13 sergeants, first class, Hospital Corps; 11 sergeants, Hospital Corps; 1 lance corporal, Hospital Corps; 58 privates, first class, Hospital Corps; 54 privates, Hospital Corps.

The mean strength of the department as shown by the reports of sick and wounded was: Officers, 112; enlisted men, 2,729; total, 2,841.

The total admissions to sick report during the year for diseases in line of duty were 2,474; not in line of duty, 716; for injuries in line of duty, 692; not in line of duty, 81; aggregate for all causes, 3,963; giving a rate of 1.39 plus per thousand of mean strength.

As a result of the diseases, wounds, and injuries, as indicated above, the Government sustained a loss of 47,990 days' service, an average of 17.31 days for each officer and enlisted man, or 4.741 per cent constantly noneffective.

Thirteen deaths occurred during the year, all enlisted men except 1; 7 on account of diseases in line of duty; 5 on account of injuries in line of duty; 1 suicide, not in line of duty. The ratio of deaths to the command was 4.58 per thousand of mean strength. The number of discharges for disability during the year was 42—17 for disability contracted in line of duty and 25 for disability not contracted in line of duty, the greatest number from the same disease being 5 each of heart disease and rheumatism.

The following table gives a general view of the results of diseases and injuries at each post in the department:

Posts.	Mean strength.	Died.	Discharge disability.	Days lost.	Transferred to other hospitals.				Per cent of mean strength constantly non-effective.
					Army General, Washington.	Insane, Washington.	Army and Navy, Hot Springs.	Army General, Fort Bayard.	
Headquarters Department of the Gulf ..	22	1		155					1.93
Fort Barrancas	396	12	11	7,786	1		1	1	6.97
Fort Caswell	194	1	4	3,045			1	4	4.30
Fort Dade	95		1	829			1	1	2.39
Fort De Soto	80			645					2.21
Fort Fremont	82	1		526					1.76
Jackson Barracks	189			2,483					3.60
Key West Barracks	255	2	5	5,077	1				5.45
Fort McPherson	169	1	6	3,101	1			1	5.03
Fort Morgan	151		1	2,585	1			1	4.69
Fort Moultrie	409		6	7,070	1		1		4.13
Fort Oglethorpe	564	4	8	11,147					5.41
Fort Screven	230	1	1	3,327					3.96
Fort St. Philip	27			214					2.17
Total	2,863	13	42	47,990	5	.....	4	8	4.59

EPIDEMICS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

Fort Barrancas.—During January and February influenza of the pseudo type as distinguished from epidemic influenza, due to climatic conditions. In May and June there were several cases of diarrhea, due to climatic conditions. Three cases of measles occurred in May. These cases were brought from Jefferson Barracks, Mo., by recruits.

Fort Caswell.—Two epidemics of typhoid fever occurred during the year; the first consisting of three cases. Two cases were contracted at Southport, N. C.; in one case the source of infection was undetermined. The second epidemic consisted of one case. Source of infection unknown. Ten cases of measles occurred. The source of infection in nine cases was undetermined; the tenth was contracted at the post.

Fort Dade.—No epidemic or contagious diseases during the year. One case of mumps, contracted in Tampa, Fla.

Fort De Soto.—No epidemics or contagious diseases during the year. One case of mumps and one case of measles brought to the post from Jefferson Barracks, Mo., by recruits.

Fort Fremont.—In January, February, and March influenza of mild form prevailed.

Jackson Barracks.—Three cases of diphtheria occurred. It is believed that all cases were infected in New Orleans, La., where the disease was prevalent. In March one case of measles was found in the recruit detachment; source unknown. One case of typhoid fever occurred in the person of a civilian employee of the quartermaster's department. Infection occurred at Fort St. Philip, La. Another case developed in the One hundred and sixty-fourth Company, Coast Artillery Corps; infection probably occurred at New Orleans. Seven

cases of malaria occurred, none of which originated at the post. One case of varioloid was admitted in May from the recruit detachment; source unknown.

Key West Barracks.—Fifteen cases of measles occurred in the recruit detachment in February and March; source of infection Columbus Barracks, Ohio. Five cases of mumps developed in the recruit detachment; source of infection Columbus Barracks, Ohio. On June 8, a case of typhoid fever appeared in the garrison; the disease was evidently contracted in Key West, Fla.

Fort McPherson.—During December, January, February, March, and April the following diseases were treated at intervals: Diphtheria, one case; measles, twelve cases; mumps, four cases; source of infection in all cases was Atlanta, Ga.

Fort Morgan.—An epidemic of measles and mumps occurred during March and April; source of infection Mobile, Ala.

Fort Moultrie.—An epidemic of mumps was brought to the post by a party of recruits from Columbus Barracks, Ohio. In all there were fifteen cases. In May another case developed; the cause of this case is unknown. Six cases of measles developed in the same party of recruits. In June another case of measles developed at post. Source of infection at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Fort Oglethorpe.—One case of diphtheria occurred in March, resulting in death after six days. Source of infection unknown. Twenty cases of measles occurred between February 3 and April 9, with one death, due to broncho-pneumonia; source of infection unknown.

Fort Screven.—One case of typhoid fever occurred; source of infection Savannah, Ga., where typhoid fever was prevalent at the time. Fourteen cases of measles occurred. The infection was brought from Columbus Barracks, Ohio, by a recruit.

Fort St. Philip.—No epidemics or contagious disease occurred during the year.

SANITARY CONDITIONS.

The sanitary conditions of the posts in the department are good, with the exception of Jackson Barracks, La., and Key West Barracks, Fla.

The sanitary conditions at Key West Barracks, Fla., will be much improved when the railroad operations adjacent to the post are completed.

Minor deficiencies at other posts reported in monthly sanitary reports have been corrected as far as possible.

HOSPITAL CORPS.

The members of the Hospital Corps have been instructed according to regulations. Monthly reports of instructions have been made.

There have been few courts-martial of members of the Hospital Corps, and but four desertions.

It is gratifying that so many have reenlisted when the fact that a number of posts in the department are small and isolated is considered.

The medical officers have proven very efficient.

CIVILIANS.

Of the 1,262 civilians attached to the posts in the department, 526 are males, 387 females, and 349 children; among these 35 births and 9 deaths were reported; 105 were admitted to the different hospitals during the year.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The operations of this department have been satisfactory throughout the year.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

Disbursements	\$1, 508, 396. 70
Soldiers' deposits received	54, 695. 45
A. P. collections	43, 545. 67

All public funds received have been properly accounted for. All troops have been promptly paid every month throughout the department.

The new pay act was put into effect without delay May 11, although it required a number of new interpretations and increased the disbursements and responsibilities about 25 per cent. An increase in the volume of soldiers' deposits is already noticed.

The militia coast defense exercises were each attended by a paymaster in person for purposes of instruction and payment of militia.

During the past year payments have been made by the paymasters in person at Forts McPherson, Oglethorpe, Moultrie, and Screven.

The chief paymaster recommends that the commands at Forts Morgan and Barrancas be paid by paymasters in person, which is concurred in.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The operations of this department have been satisfactory throughout the year.

The principal duties devolving upon this office have been the supervision of requisitions for supplies to troops in this department, the review of reports of survey, the review of inventory and inspection reports, the redistribution of ammunition for seacoast guns, and, in general, all matters pertaining to the Ordnance Department.

During the present fiscal year all troops in the department have been rearmed with United States magazine rifles, caliber .30, model 1903, chambered for model of 1906 ammunition.

These arms replaced the United States magazine rifles, caliber .30, model of 1903, with sights and bayonets of the model of 1905, that had been issued during the preceding fiscal year.

The troops were also supplied with the model of 1906 ammunition for use in the new arms.

This department also furnished ammunition and supplies for the joint army and militia coast defense exercises and for the troops to be encamped at Chickamauga Park from July 1 to August 1, 1908, in the camp of instruction at that point.

During the fiscal year about 545 requisitions have been received and acted upon.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.

The operations of this department have been satisfactory throughout the year, though it is undoubtedly a disadvantage to have the chief engineer officer and his office located at a point without the department, the object in this case being to economize funds and employees by maintaining the office force in New York City in connection with the office of the chief engineer officer, Department of the East.

Considerable work has been accomplished in connection with the preparation of the progressive military map of the United States, five officers having been steadily engaged in collecting field notes for this map from October 1, 1907, to June 15, 1908; some of these notes have been plotted in addition to the plotting of all notes pertaining to this department, received on July 1, 1907, from the office of the chief engineer officer, Atlantic Division.

Owing to the limited appropriation made for "Civilian assistants to engineer officers" and the special needs of the engineer officer of the Philippines Division, but \$1,200 was allotted to this office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909. Under this allotment work on the progressive military map of the United States can not steadily be continued; it may, in fact, be necessary to furlough the draftsman from time to time, during which periods he may be employed in the office of district engineer in charge of river and harbor works, in order to limit the office expenditure to the allotment. It is recommended that an allotment of \$1,800 be made to this office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910.

MONEY STATEMENT.

[Appropriation: "Civilian assistants to engineer officers, 1908" (act of March 2, 1907).]

June 30, 1908, amount withdrawn from United States Treasury during fiscal year 1908, from allotment made to office by Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army		\$1, 700. 00
June 30, 1908, expended during fiscal year	\$1, 695. 98	
June 30, 1908, deposited to credit of Treasurer of United States with assistant treasurer of United States at New York	4. 02	1,700. 00

SIGNAL CORPS.

The operations of this department have been satisfactory throughout the year.

The duty consisted entirely of installing, maintaining, and repairing mine control, fire control, and post telephone systems at the several posts.

NEW INSTALLATIONS. ALL PROVISIONAL.

Fort Morgan, Ala.—The fire-control system is 90 per cent completed on this date. Consists of equipment of one each F' and F'', two each B' and B'', and Batteries Duportail 2-12" B. L. R. and Dearborn 8-12" B. L. M.

Lines of communication B' Dearborn to the battery and B'', subterranean, 7-conductor, cable; the remainder are twisted pair spun on a messenger strand, on iron poles.

Telephones, 32; T. I. bells—large 7, small 5; local battery.

Fort Morgan, Ala.—The provisional post administrative telephone system is 75 per cent completed on this date.

Lines of communication, aerial wire, metallic circuit, No. 14, G. I., and No. 12 hard drawn copper wire, one-half inch, strung on wooden poles and cross-arms. Telephones installed as provided in General Orders, No. 97, War Department, series 1906, and letter office Chief Signal Officer of the Army, dated June 29, 1907, re a telephone for each officer's quarters, 17 in all, with a central station and a 20-drop switchboard.

Fort Taylor, Fla.—The mine-control installation was begun on May 1, 1908, and is 80 per cent complete on this date. Consists of a double primary and a double secondary, with their adjuncts and connecting lines, aerial-outside twisted pair, spun on a messenger strand, and strung on iron and wooden poles.

Telephones, 23; T. I. bells, small 2; common battery.

Fort Pickens, Fla.—Mine-control installation begun April 29, 1908, and is 92 per cent completed on this date. Consists of double primary and double secondary, with their adjuncts and connecting lines, aerial-outside twisted pair wire, spun on messenger strand, and strung on wooden poles.

Telephones, 24; T. I. bells, small 2; local battery.

Fort Dade, Fla.—Mine-control installation was begun on April 29, 1908, and on this date is 80 per cent completed. Consists of one double and one single primary, one double and one single secondary, with their adjuncts and connecting lines, aerial-outside twisted pair wire, spun on a messenger strand, and strung on iron and wooden poles.

Telephones, 30; T. I. bells, small 4; local battery.

No general repairs were required at any of the installations in the department.

SUBMARINE CABLES.

Gains.

Cable No. 246, 1 conductor, easternmost cable between Forts Barrancas and Pickens, Fla.

Cable No. 247, 1 conductor, westernmost cable between Forts Barrancas and Pickens, Fla.

Cables 246 and 247 connect the telephone central offices in the two posts named. The circuit is that on the post administrative system.

Cable No. 248, 2 conductor, between Forts Barrancas and Pickens, Fla., connects the battle commander's station at Barrancas with the fire commander's station at Pickens.

Cable No. 249, between Forts Pickens and McRee, Fla., 2 conductor, connects fire commander's stations at posts named.

Cable No. 245, 2 conductor, between Forts McRee and Barrancas, Fla., connects battle commander's station at Barrancas with fire commander's station at McRee.

Losses.

Cable No. 182, 1 conductor, and Cable No. 187, 1 conductor. These two were between Forts Barrancas and Pickens, Fla.; were recovered and relaid as Nos. 246 and 247.

Cable No. 185, 2 conductor, between Forts Morgan and Gaines, Ala., carried away by vessel's anchors in the hurricane of September, 1906. All efforts to recover it proved unavailing, and it was abandoned and dropped by authority of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army (First indorsement, April 15, 1908, No. 10701-45).

Damages.

Cable No. 247, 1 conductor, between Forts Barrancas and Pickens, Fla., was disabled by vessel's anchor on January 5, 1908. This fact was not known at this office until May 12, 1908. The cable was repaired by the post authorities on May 26, 1908.

CONDITION OF ALL SUBMARINE CABLES IN THIS DEPARTMENT.

- No. 177. Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter, S. C.: Good.
- No. 180. Fort Fremont to Paris Island, S. C.: Good.
- No. 204. Fort Fremont to Paris Island, S. C.: Unserviceable.
- No. 184. Fort McRee to Fort Barrancas, Fla.: Good.
- No. 181. Fort Dade to Fort De Soto, Fla.: Good.
- No. 208. Fort Dade to Fort De Soto, Fla. (9 conductor): Good, 6; fair, 3.
- No. 205. Fort De Soto, Fla. (main base line): Fair—serviceable.
- No. 245. Fort McRee to Fort Barrancas, Fla.: Good.
- No. 246. Fort Barrancas to Fort Pickens, Fla.: Good.
- No. 247. Fort Barrancas to Fort Pickens, Fla.: Good.
- No. 248. Fort Barrancas to Fort Pickens, Fla.: Good.
- No. 249. Fort Pickens to Fort McRee, Fla.: Good.
- No. 213. Fort Dade to Braidentown, Fla.: Good.

POST TELEPHONE SYSTEMS, FOR ADMINISTRATION.

Fort McPherson, Ga.—Metallic circuit, through aerial cable on electric light poles. Condition, good.

Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.—Telephones bridged to ground on single wire. Wooden poles. Condition, good.

Jackson Barracks, La.—Metallic circuit, open wire, on wooden poles. Condition, good.

Fort Morgan, Ala.—Aerial lines, metallic circuit, No. 14, G. L., and No. 12 hard drawn copper wire, one-half each strung on wooden poles and cross arms; 17 telephones with a central station and 20-drop switchboard now being installed, and is 75 per cent completed on this date.

RIFLE RANGES.

One and one-half miles from Waco, Ga., with telephone connection to the telegraph office in Waco. Used by Fort McPherson garrison. Three hundred feet, 2-conductor, lead covered cable (subterranean), 6 outlet boxes at firing points and at butts.

Near Catoosa Springs, Ga., $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Ringgold, Ga., has no direct telephone connection. Long-distance telephone station at Catoosa Springs, one-half mile distant. Used by Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., garrison.

In March, 1908, the aerial line was removed and a new (1,200 yards, type 213, subterranean, lead-covered, 1-pair) cable was installed.

At the remainder of the posts in this department there are short ranges with telephonic communication more or less crude, **excepting** at Forts Barrancas and Dade, Fla., and Fremont, S. C., where there is no electrical communication.

SEMI-ANNUAL INSPECTION OF THE FIRE-CONTROL EQUIPMENT.

Inspections of the Signal Corps, under General Orders, No. 157, War Department, series 1906, were made as follows: Fort Barrancas, Fla., November 4-6, 1907; Fort Caswell, N. C., October 17, 1907; Fort Dade, Fla., October 31, 1907; Fort De Soto, Fla., November 1, 1907; Fort Fremont, S. C., October 13, 1907; Key West Barracks, Fla., October 28, 1907; Fort Morgan, Ala., November 11, 1907; Fort Moultrie, S. C., October 14, 1907; Fort Screven, Ga., October 11, 1907.

All of the above were found to be in serviceable condition, **excepting** that at Fort Morgan, Ala., which was entirely replaced by a new equipment which was completed on July 6, 1908.

Post telephone systems were inspected at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., June 15, 1908; Fort McPherson, Ga., June 19, 1908, and found to be in serviceable condition.

The requirements of paragraph 1594, Army Regulations, that there shall be at all times at least two available enlisted men in each troop, battery, or company able to exchange messages in the army and navy code at short distances by flag have been fully complied with.

Reports from all posts show that many of the organizations **have** more than the requisite number.

POST AND GARRISON SCHOOLS.

Under General Orders, No. 124, War Department, 1905, post schools are conducted at each post. As the posts have not been inspected during the fiscal year by the inspector-general of the department, the report required by paragraph 6, General Orders, No. 124, War Department, series of 1905, can not be made.

Garrison schools for officers have been conducted at Forts Oglethorpe and McPherson, the subjects studied being administration, manual of guard duty, field service regulations, drill regulations, and firing regulations for small arms. Second Lieut. William D. Geary, Twelfth Cavalry, was found deficient in cavalry drill regulations, and Second Lieut. W. H. Bille, Second Regiment, Louisiana State National Guard, deficient in both drill regulations and firing regulations for small arms. All other officers reported proficient.

The period prescribed for garrison schools for officers by General Orders, No. 124, War Department, series of 1905, is the closed season, November 1 to March 31. In the Department of the Gulf the period of indoor artillery instruction is the closed season, June 1 to September 30, hence the school season is extended practically throughout the calendar year. In letter from the War Department, The Adjutant-General's Office, September 18, 1907, the Acting Secretary of War authorized a deviation from provisions of paragraph 8 of above-

quoted order to the extent of changing the term of theoretical instruction from that specified therein, namely, from November 1 to March 31, to an equivalent continuous period more nearly coincident with the periods fixed for the indoor instruction at the coast artillery stations in the Department of the Gulf. Under this authority the period for indoor instruction for coast artillery was designated as from July 1 to November 11, and the garrison schools are now in operation at artillery stations.

TARGET RANGES.

During the year \$3,944.13 was expended in making repairs to target ranges throughout the department. There still remains work to be done on several of the ranges to put them in a thorough state of efficiency. The allotment for the fiscal year 1909 from the appropriation "Shooting galleries and ranges" for this department amounts to \$12,219.59, and it is believed that this will be sufficient to meet all requirements.

Protest was made during the year by citizens residing in the vicinity of the Catoosa target range, Georgia, against the holding of practice on that range, it being alleged that bullets fell upon adjoining land, endangering the lives of persons and live stock. An appropriation of \$16,500 was made by Congress for the purchase of 684 acres of land adjacent to the present tract. The necessary steps are now under way to secure to the United States valid title to this additional area, and it is believed that the Catoosa range will then be entirely safe.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

Range practice was held within the department during the year by the Twelfth Cavalry and the Third Battalion of the Seventeenth Infantry. The special course A was also pursued by the coast artillery troops in the department. November was designated as the month during which the supplementary practice should be held, and April, May, and June as the regular practice season. Reports have not yet been received from all the organizations firing, but from the reports received it is believed that the results obtained were eminently satisfactory and that the degree of proficiency attained was in advance of the previous year. The substantial cash bonus for proficiency in marksmanship by the act approved May 11, 1908, has had a distinct effect in increasing the zeal and earnestness with which the men enter upon target practice, and it is believed that this will be even more pronounced in future when the men have had an opportunity to observe the benefits acquired by their fellows who obtained this year qualifications entitling them to additional pay.

PRACTICE MARCHES.

Practice marches, pursuant to General Orders, No. 44, War Department, 1906, and General Orders, No. 14, Department of the Gulf, 1906, were made during the year as follows:

July 2, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.

July 3, Troops K, L, and M, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18.5 miles.

July 4 to 20, Troop I, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 261 miles.
July 9, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.
July 10, Troops K, L, and M, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 19 miles.
July 18, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 20 miles.
July 19, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 20 miles.
July 22, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 19 miles.
July 23, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.
July 29, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 21 miles.
July 30, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 19 miles.
August 6, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.
August 7, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.
August 13, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 19 miles.
August 14, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 19.5 miles.
August 19, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 19 miles.
August 20, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.
August 26, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.
August 27, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 22 miles.
September 3, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 18 miles.
September 4, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 22 miles.
September 12, 13, and 14, Third Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 36 miles.
September 16, 17, and 18, First Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 24 miles.
July 5, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
July 12, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
July 19, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
July 26, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
August 2, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
August 9, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
August 16, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
August 21, 22, and 23, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
August 30, Third Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry, marched 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

In September, 1907, General Orders, No. 81, Department of the Gulf, revoking General Orders, No. 14, Department of the Gulf, 1906, was issued pursuant to General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907. Under this order practice marches were held as follows:

October 10, Twelfth Cavalry, consisting of available force (First and Third Squadrons), took the field for twenty-one days' march, as follows: October 10, marched 11.5 miles; October 11, marched 4 miles; October 12, marched 14 miles; October 13, marched 9 miles; October 14, marched 13 miles; October 15, marched 6 miles; October 16, marched 10 miles; October 17, marched 13.5 miles; October 18, in camp; October 19, marched 16.5 miles; October 20, marched 9 miles; October 21, marched 11.5 miles; October 22, marched 11.5 miles; October 23, marched 8.5 miles; October 24, marched 15 miles; October 25, marched 11 miles; October 26, marched 8 miles; October 27, marched 7 miles; October 28, marched 15 miles; October 29, marched 14.5 miles; October 30, marched 13.5 miles; total, 220 miles.

April 3, 4, and 5, Troops A, B, C, D, I, L, and Machine-Gun Platoon, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 35.5 miles.

April 17, Troops K and M, and Second Squadron, Twelfth Cavalry, took part in "night exercises."

April 20, 21, and 22, Troops E, F, and G, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 37 miles.

April 27, 28, and 29, Troops H, K, and M, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 41.5 miles.

May 6, Troops E, F, G, H, K, and M, Twelfth Cavalry, took part in "night exercises."

May 8, 9, and 10, Troops I and L, and Machine-Gun Platoon, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 50 miles.

May 12, 13, and 14, Troops E, F, G, H, K, and M, Twelfth Cavalry, marched 33.5 miles.

October 7, 1907, Companies K and M, Seventeenth Infantry, and detachment, Hospital Corps, took the field for twenty-one days' practice march, as follows: October 7, marched 7.5 miles; October 8, marched 11.5 miles; October 9, marched 13.25 miles; October 10, marched 13 miles; October 11, marched 11.75 miles; October 12, marched 12.75 miles; October 14, marched 15.75 miles; October 15, marched 14.75 miles; October 18, marched 15.75 miles; October 19, marched 13.5 miles; October 20, marched 13 miles; October 21, marched 12.5 miles; October 22, marched 8.5 miles; October 23, marched 12.75 miles; October 24, marched 13.50 miles; October 26, marched 10.25 miles; October 27, marched 7.5 miles; total, 207.5 miles.

November 2, Companies I and L, Seventeenth Infantry, and detachment, Hospital Corps, took to the field for twenty-one days' practice march, as follows: November 2, marched 6.5 miles; November 3, marched 9 miles; November 4, marched 12.5 miles; November 5, marched 12.5 miles; November 6, marched 16 miles; November 8, marched 12 miles; November 9, marched 15.5 miles; November 11, marched 13.75 miles; November 13, marched 17.5 miles; November 14, marched 17.5 miles; November 15, marched 18 miles; November 16, marched 18 miles; November 19, marched 12.5 miles; November 20, marched 12.5 miles; November 21, marched 9 miles; November 22, marched 6.5 miles; total, 209.25 miles.

June 15, 1908, Companies I, L, and M, Seventeenth Infantry, and detachment, Hospital Corps, left Fort McPherson, Ga., for camp of instruction, Chickamauga Park, Ga., marching as follows: June 15, marched 10 miles; June 16, marched 12 miles; June 17, marched 17 miles; June 18, marched 16.55 miles; June 19, marched 10.7 miles; June 20, marched 15.8 miles; June 21, marched 15 miles; June 22, marched 13 miles; June 23, marched 14 miles; June 24, marched 13.5 miles; June 25, marched 15 miles; June 26, marched 11 miles; June 27, marched 14.73 miles; June 28, marched 7 miles; June 29, marched 15.75 miles; total, 201.03 miles.

INSPECTION OF THE MILITIA.

The annual inspection of the militia of the several States within this department by officers of the army, as required by section 14 of the militia law of January 21, 1903, and General Orders, No. 230, War Department, November 12, 1907, was made as follows:

Alabama.—Between March 16 and April 28, 1908, by Capt. Paul T. Hayne, jr., Twelfth Cavalry.

Florida.—Between March 16 and April 22, 1908; due to a street-car strike in Pensacola, which required the presence of the state troops to quell disorder and preserve life and property, it was necessary to postpone from April 13, 14, and 15, the dates originally designated for the inspection of the companies located at De Funiak Springs, Marianna, and Apalachicola, to April 20, 21, and 22, 1908, thus unavoidably delaying the inspection of the Florida militia for a few days only.

Georgia.—Between February 24 and April 24, 1908, by Maj. G. F. Landers, Coast Artillery Corps.

An effort to inspect Company K, Third Battalion of Infantry, was made on March 26, 1908, but on account of the organization having been without a commanding officer for more than six months it was found to be in such a deplorable condition that the inspection on the date originally designated had to be abandoned. Upon the request of the adjutant-general of Georgia a reinspection was authorized on April 25, 1908, the additional expense of which was borne by the State.

Louisiana.—Between March 2 and March 30, 1908, by Maj. S. M. Foote, Coast Artillery Corps.

Mississippi.—Between April 1 and April 30, 1908, by Maj. H. J. Goldman, Twelfth Cavalry.

North Carolina.—Between March 1 and April 13, 1908, by Capt. A. H. Huguet, Seventeenth Infantry.

South Carolina.—Between March 4 and April 29, 1908, by First Lieut. C. H. Cabaniss, jr., U. S. Army, retired, on duty with the State of South Carolina.

Tennessee.—Between March 23 and April 20, 1908, by Capt. Charles B. Rogan, jr., U. S. Army, retired, on duty with the State of Tennessee.

After a careful review at these headquarters, in which the deficiencies and shortcomings of the troops of each State were pointed out, the reports were forwarded to The Adjutant-General of the Army.

ATHLETICS.

The course of gymnastic drill and outdoor athletics inaugurated by my predecessor has been continued to the end of the fiscal year. In compliance with the provisions of a letter from the War Department, The Adjutant-General's Office, dated November 5, 1907 (1297003), the course in operation in the department was modified, and General Orders, No. 96, headquarters Department of the Gulf, was issued, revoking all previous orders on this subject. This order prescribes that gymnasium drill or corresponding outdoor exercise will be held daily, Saturdays and Sundays excepted. Drill to be compulsory for foot troops, and discretionary with the post commander for mounted troops. Post athletic meets to be had quarterly thereafter. To increase interest in saber and bayonet exercises post contests with and between those weapons will, whenever practicable, form part of the programme for post athletic meets. The practice of having these meets quarterly instead of monthly, as previously, appears to have created a greater interest among the men, and a greater willingness to enter and compete. There has been a very satisfactory interest displayed by the participants in the contests, and some creditable records

have been made. The matter of prizes is a troublesome one, but as far as possible the suggestions of the department have been met. In some instances money prizes have been awarded the successful competitors, and at other posts special privileges. No departmental meet has been held. Comprehensive reports of all meets have heretofore been forwarded to The Adjutant-General of the Army upon termination of the contests.

RELIEF OF SUFFERERS FROM THE CYCLONE OF APRIL 24, 1908.

A statement having appeared in the public press on the morning of April 27, 1908, that a resolution had or would be introduced in Congress looking to the relief of the sufferers from the cyclone, immediate action, in anticipation of instructions from the War Department, was taken, and the following letter addressed to the governors of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, and to the mayors of Chipley, Stinson, and Harris, Ga., reported as in immediate need of relief:

SIR: I have the honor to request, in view of a proposed resolution of Congress, authorizing the Secretary of War to extend relief to sufferers from the recent cyclone, information as to where relief will be necessary in your State, and of what character; also the number requiring relief, and what it will be necessary to supply them with. This information is desired at the earliest practicable moment.

Later, on the same date, the following telegrams were received:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 27, 1908.

COMMANDING GENERAL,
Department of the Gulf, Atlanta, Ga.:

Passage of resolution by Congress authorizing Secretary of War to extend relief to sufferers from cyclone in Department of the Gulf seems imminent. Make inquiry immediately with view to determining where relief will be necessary and of what character.

Telegraph this office soon as possible what is needed and how many officers will be required to aid you in handling question of relief where needed. You are authorized to send an officer to investigate conditions if necessary. You are urged to make all possible haste in this matter.

By order Acting Secretary of War:

AINSWORTH, *The Adjutant-General.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 28, 1908.

COMMANDING GENERAL,
Department of the Gulf, Atlanta, Ga.:

Maj. Carroll A. Devol, General Staff, ordered to investigate needs of certain places in Mississippi as results of cyclone. He is authorized to make requisition for tentage by wire directly to military posts, Department Gulf. Acting Secretary War directs you to instruct commanding officers to honor Major Devol's requisitions.

McCain, *Adjutant-General.*

In reply to a telegram representing that relief could be more promptly furnished if the department commander was authorized to use his discretion in ordering same, the following telegram was received:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 29, 1908.

COMMANDING GENERAL,
Department of the Gulf, Atlanta, Ga.:

Secretary War directs you use your discretion in ordering issues at once to sufferers from cyclone in all cases where report is received after investigation by an army officer.

McCain, *Adjutant-General.*

On April 29 a telegram was received from the War Department directing the issue of tentage from posts in the department to cyclone sufferers, with certain limitations, and further directing that Major Devol, in charge of relief measures in Mississippi, be notified if tentage was drawn from Jackson Barracks, Key West Barracks, Fort Barrancas, or Fort McPherson. On May 1 a telegram was received from the War Department directing the issue of cots from posts in the department to cyclone sufferers. The same telegram notified the department commander that the depot quartermaster, St. Louis depot, had been instructed to honor his requisition for certain articles of clothing, and directing him to send an officer to Griffin, Ga., to superintend relief measures and make purchases from funds to be supplied him by Red Cross Society, acting as agent for the same. In accordance with the latter instructions Lieutenant Ostermann, Seventeenth Infantry, was immediately sent to Griffin, but after waiting several days, no funds or communication having been received from the Red Cross Society, and finding from personal investigation that no further relief was required in that vicinity, he was withdrawn.

On May 2 a telegram was received from the War Department directing the supply of rations for relief of cyclone sufferers, and that the chief commissary should procure locally such food supplies as may be available in order to avoid shipping from a distance. On May 4 a telegram was received from the War Department stating "Congress will appropriate funds for relief of cyclone sufferers, and you are authorized to use funds now where necessary." On May 12 a telegram was received from the War Department authorizing issue of tents, rations, and suitable clothing to destitutes in Cleveland, Tenn., at discretion of department commander. A mass of other telegrams were sent and received bearing on this subject, but the foregoing constitutes, in general, the authority under which action was taken for relief of the sufferers. The following officers were sent to various points in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Tennessee to investigate and report upon the conditions actually existing in each locality, and upon their reports supplies were ordered as follows: Lieut. Col. Charles G. Woodward, inspector-general; Capt. Charles C. Clark, chief commissary; Capt. L. S. Chappelle, Coast Artillery Corps; Capt. J. W. Craig, Twelfth Cavalry; First Lieut. Frank L. Case, Twelfth Cavalry.

Each officer was carefully instructed to determine personally as far as possible the actual needs in each case, and to call for supplies or make purchases only where the people were unable to obtain them from other proper sources. It is believed that the instructions were carried out with discretion, that all worthy cases were promptly provided for, and that proper economy was exercised in all cases, it being no part of the policy of the military authorities to reimburse individuals for losses who were in proper shape financially and otherwise to provide for themselves. It was found that the various relief committees were imbued with the proper spirit in regard to relief to be afforded, and they were of great assistance to the officers in determining the amount and kind of relief actually needed. So far as is known all supplies deemed necessary by the various relief committees were issued, said committees acting in connection with the investigating officers in each case.

The following table gives the amount and kind of food supplies purchased and issued to cyclone sufferers, with money value thereof, and name of officer making investigation:

Food supplies purchased for relief of sufferers in the Southern States on account of cyclone, April 24, 1908.

Purchasing officer and where issued.	Date.	Bacon.	Flour.	Flour.	Corn-meal.	Coffee.	Sugar.	Sirup.
		<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Bbls.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Gals.</i>
Capt. Charles C. Clark, commissary, U. S. Army: Chipley, Ga.	May 4	1,000	1,125	.....	1,500	150	450	32
Do	do	1,000	1,125	.....	1,500	150	450	22
Total		2,000	2,250	.....	3,000	300	900	64
Harris, Ga.	May 4	466	980	.....	96	51	100	50
Do	May 6	947	980	.....	960	81	200	.....
Total		1,413	1,960	.....	1,056	131	300	50
Cave Springs, Ga.	May 5	200	250	.....	240	25	75	5
Total purchased		3,619	4,460	.....	4,296	456	1,275	119
Capt. J. W. Craig, Twelfth Cavalry: Fort Payne, Ala.	May 6	5,700	.....	.....	.....	320	639	.....
Do	May 7	.....	7,840	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total		5,700	7,840	.....	.....	320	639	.....
Albertville, Ala.	May 8	7,000	50,000	.....	.....	1,900	3,800	.....
Do	do	27,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total		34,000	50,000	.....	.....	1,900	3,800	.....
Dora, Ala.	May 10	3,750	.....	28	.....	210	320	.....
Fort Deposit, Ala.	May 12	1,870	.....	14	.....	105	160	.....
Portland, Ala.	May 14	5,700	.....	44	.....	325	500	.....
Tuskegee, Ala.	May 17	8,000	.....	60	.....	430	670	.....
Total purchased		59,020	50,000	146	.....	3,290	6,089	.....
Lieut. Col. Chas. G. Woodward, C. A. C., acting inspector-general: Warrior and Sloan, Ala.	May 13	.....	3,000	.....	.....	200	200	.....
Do	May 14	1,500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	54
Total		1,500	3,000	.....	.....	200	200	54
Oneonta, Ala.	May 15	2,000	4,000	.....	.....	300	200	60
Total purchased		3,500	7,000	.....	.....	500	400	114
First Lieut. Frank L. Case, Twelfth Cavalry: Cleveland, Tenn.	May 13	1,050	2,100	.....	.....	196	300	.....
Capt. L. S. Chappellear, C. A. C.: Vidalia, La.	May 18	4,500	6,674	.....	.....	425	900	.....
Do	do	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total		4,500	6,674	.....	.....	425	900	.....
Monterey, La.	May 19	6,500	.....	51	.....	630	1,859	.....
Total purchased		11,000	6,674	51	.....	1,055	2,759	.....
Grand total purchased		78,189	70,234	197	4,296	5,497	10,823	233

Food supplies purchased for relief of sufferers in the Southern States on account of cyclone, April 24, 1908—Continued.

Purchasing officer and where issued.	Date.	Lard.	Lard compound.	Salt.	Corn.	Pep-per.	Baking powder.	Vine-gar.	Value.
Capt. Charles C. Clark, commissary, U. S. Army:									
Chipley, Ga.....	May 4	Lbs. 50	Lbs.	Lbs.	Bush.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Gals.	\$205.20
Do.....	do	50							207.45
Total.....		100							412.65
Harris, Ga.....	May 4		50						95.53
Do.....	May 6		60						138.45
Total.....			110						233.98
Cave Springs, Ga.....	May 5		60	25					43.53
Total purchased.....		100	170	25					690.16
Capt. J. W. Craig, Twelfth Cavalry:									
Fort Payne, Ala.....	May 6	250		300					545.19
Do.....	May 7								200.00
Total.....		250		300					745.19
Albertville, Ala.....	May 8	1,000		1,200					2,460.45
Do.....	do	600							2,414.37
Total.....		1,600		1,200					4,874.82
Dora, Ala.....	May 10	500		200					628.08
Fort Deposit, Ala.....	May 12	250		100					290.53
Portland, Ala.....	May 14	500		300					339.52
Tuskegee, Ala.....	May 17	670		400					1,315.70
Total purchased.....		3,670		2,200					8,793.84
Lieut. Col. Chas. G. Woodward, C. A. C., acting inspector-general:									
Warrior and Sloan, Ala..	May 13			150					128.25
Do.....	May 14		150						159.60
Total.....			150	150					287.85
Oneonta, Ala.....	May 15	150		100					366.45
Total purchased.....		150	150	250					654.30
First Lieut. Frank L. Case, Twelfth Cavalry:									
Cleveland, Tenn.....	May 13				70				24.72
Capt. L. S. Chappelle, C. A. C.:									
Vidalia, La.....	May 18			100		7½			554.98
Do.....	do								102.50
Total.....				100		7½			657.48
Monterey, La.....	May 19	1,000		350		27	36	48	1,001.11
Total purchased.....		1,000		450		34½	36	48	1,658.59
Grand total purchased.....		4,920	320	2,925	70	34½	36	48	12,041.61

The following articles of quartermaster's supplies were issued to cyclone sufferers on report of officers in each case, as given in above table, for each locality.

The money value of articles issued is given net; as cost of transportation could only be given in part it is omitted altogether. It should be stated, however, that many of them were somewhat worn, and that the money value given is based upon the price list of new articles.

ALABAMA.

Albertville, 150 tents, common, complete, \$14.20 each.....	\$2, 130. 00
Albertville, 500 cots, \$2.67 each.....	1, 335. 00
	<u>3, 465. 00</u>
Dora, 30 tents, wall, complete, \$31.62 each.....	948. 60
Dora, 60 cots, \$2.67 each.....	160. 20
	<u>1, 108. 80</u>
Fort Deposit, 68 tents, wall, complete, \$31.62 each.....	2, 150. 16
Fort Deposit, 72 cots, \$2.67 each.....	192. 24
	<u>2, 342. 40</u>
Fort Payne, 24 tents, common, complete, \$31.62 each.....	758. 88
Oneonta, 75 cots, \$2.67 each.....	200. 25
Sloan, 75 cots, \$2.67 each.....	200. 25
Tuskegee, 400 cots, \$2.67 each.....	1, 068. 00
Warrior, 60 cots, \$2.67 each.....	160. 20

GEORGIA.

Chipley, 150 shirts, khaki, 52 cents each.....	78. 00
Chipley, 50 cots, \$2.67 each.....	133. 50
	<u>211. 50</u>
Harris, 8 tents, wall, complete, \$31.62 each.....	252. 96
Stinson, 30 cots, \$2.67 each.....	80. 10

LOUISIANA.

Monterey, 19 tents, conical, wall, complete, \$38.80 each.....	737. 20
Monterey, 1 tent, hospital, complete, \$71.51 each.....	71. 51
Monterey, 9 tents, wall, complete, \$31.62 each.....	284. 58
	<u>1, 093. 29</u>
New Orleans, 89 tents, conical, wall, complete, \$38.80 each.....	3, 453. 20
New Orleans, 28 tents, hospital, complete, \$71.51 each.....	2, 002. 28
New Orleans, 30 tents, wall, complete, \$31.62 each.....	948. 60
New Orleans, 13 tents, common, wall, complete, \$14.20 each.....	184. 60
	<u>6, 588. 68</u>
Vidalia, 9 tents, hospital, complete, \$71.51 each.....	643. 59
Vidalia, 7 tents, wall, complete, \$31.62 each.....	221. 34
Vidalia, 3 tents, conical, wall, complete, \$38.80 each.....	116. 40
Vidalia, 3 tents, common, complete, \$14.20 each.....	42. 60
	<u>1, 023. 93</u>

TENNESSEE.

Cleveland, 15 cots, \$2.67 each.....	40. 05
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RECAPITULATION.

Total number of articles supplied Alabama :			
1,242 cots	-----	\$3,316. 14	
272 tents	-----	5,987. 64	
			\$9,303. 78
Total number of articles supplied Georgia :			
150 shirts	-----	78. 00	
80 cots	-----	213. 60	
8 tents	-----	253. 96	
			544. 56
Total number of articles supplied Louisiana :			
211 tents	-----	8,705. 90	8,705. 90
Total number of articles supplied Tennessee :			
15 cots	-----	40. 05	40. 05
Total number of articles, 1,978; total value-----			18,594. 29

PRACTICAL TRAINING UNDER GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 177, WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 27, 1907.

The scheme of instruction inaugurated by my predecessor in compliance with above order has been consistently carried out. The months of November, December, January, February, and March were designated as the season for garrison training and the remaining months of the year as the season for field training. The commanding officers of Forts Oglethorpe and McPherson, Ga., were required to submit schemes for the progressive instruction of their commands for the year 1908, given below, which, being approved, have been carried out as far as possible and are still in operation, thus leaving as much initiative and offering as much latitude to post commanders as possible.

SCHEME FOR FORT OGLETHORPE.

Garrison training.—January, February, March, November, and December.

Field training.—April, May, June, July, August, September, October.

Subheads of instruction.

January.—(1) Calisthenic, athletic, fencing, or saber exercise; (2) Close and extended order drill; (3) Guard duty; (4) Horse exercise; (5) Prescribed schools.

February.—Same as January.

March.—Same as for January; also details of tent pitching and striking, ceremonies, preliminary training for range firing, the hygienic care of the person, of buildings and of grounds.

Post athletic meet during the quarter.

April.—(a) Target practice for troops at target range near Catoosa Springs, Ga.; (b) For troops in post.

(1) March of not less than three nor ordinarily more than six days. (2) Calisthenic, athletic, saber, or fencing exercises. (3) Close and extended order drill, including advance and rear guard formations, outpost duty, reconnaissance, and road sketching. (4) Horse exercise. (5) Two night exercises. (6) Troop commanders to have

their full organizations one day in each week, except when monthly practice march is being held, for such practical training as they may wish to give in their own discretion, provided, however, that at least two of these days be devoted to such exercises as are prescribed under the head of "Field training" in the last sentence of paragraph 3, General Orders, No. 177, War Department, series 1907.

May.—Same as April.

June.—Same as April. Post athletic meet during quarter.

July.—(1) Close and extended order drill. (2) Advance and rear guard formation. (3) Attack and defense of convoys and of selected positions. (4) Outpost duty. (5) Reconnaissance. (6) Patrolling by day and night. (7) Road sketching and the making of reports. (8) Signaling. (9) First aid to the sick and wounded. (10) Calisthenic, athletic, fencing, or saber exercises. (11) Horse exercise. (12) March of not less than three nor ordinarily more than six days. (13) Field problems, including two night exercises. (14) Troop commanders to have their full organizations one day in each week, except when monthly practice march is being held, for such practical training as they may wish to give in their own discretion, provided, however, that at least two of these days be devoted to such exercises as are prescribed under the head of "Field training" in the last sentence of paragraph 3, General Orders, No. 177, War Department, series 1907.

August.—Same as July.

September.—Same as July; also individual field cooking, screening, transportation of sick and wounded on travois and litter.

October.—Same as September.

November.—(1) Close and extended order drill and advance and rear guard formations. (2) Calisthenic, athletic, fencing, and saber exercises. (3) Guard duty. (4) Horse exercise. (5) Prescribed schools.

December.—Same as November. Post athletic meet during quarter.

The command will take the field at such time as may be practicable, for not less than twenty-one consecutive days, during the months designated for "Field training," and will, in accordance with the provisions of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, practice "exercises of every kind calculated to instruct and prepare the soldier in peace for his actual duties in war. These will embrace advance and rear guard formations, attack and defense of convoys and selected positions, outpost duty, reconnaissance, and patrolling day and night, night operations, road sketching, the making of reports, the use of intrenching tools, individual cooking, etc."

SCHEME FOR FORT M'PHERSON, GA.

Field training: Months of April, May, June, August, September, and October.

Weekly instruction in advance and rear guard formations, attack and defense of convoys and of selected positions, outpost duty, reconnaissance, the making of reports, the use of intrenching tools, individual field cooking, camp sanitation, and care of the soldier in the field.

Range firing from April 15 to June 15. Supplementary season of range firing, November.

October.—Command will take the field for not less than twenty-one consecutive days.

Garrison training: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December.

For troops not on field service or range firing one-half hour daily, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excepted, to be devoted to bayonet fencing and exercises, athletics, gymnastics, and *Butt's Manual*.

One hour daily, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excepted, to be devoted to company or battalion drill.

Preliminary training for range firing, estimating distance drill, and gallery practice, two hours daily, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excepted, for one month prior to range firing.

Parade twice a week.

Two and one-half hours daily, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excepted, for drill and instruction of recruits.

Two hours per week to be devoted to instruction in signaling, paragraph 1594, *Army Regulations*, 1904.

Local conditions at post will permit instructions in outpost duty, reconnaissance, patrolling by day and night, road sketching, the making of reports, and the use of intrenching tools.

In order that organizations should take the field for the monthly practice march and field service, with full strength, and that organization commanders should have the full strength of their commands on the one day per week for practical training at their own discretion, absentees were limited to one man in charge of quarters, and one in charge of stables when necessary, temporary details for post duties to be made from other organizations. The question of excusing men, when deemed necessary, to be referred to the department commander in ample time for consideration. The undersigned, on account of shortage of the mileage appropriation, having been unable to make the contemplated inspections and having been in command of the department but a few months, is therefore in an unfortunate position to criticise such an important order. Judging from reports passing through his hands, and a careful study of the order itself, there seems to be little to criticise: it provides a most comprehensive and thorough course of instruction, and makes, as it should, post commanders responsible for the efficiency and instruction of their commands, allowing them, at the same time, great latitude in the selection of methods and means to that end. It is thought that the short practice march in each month might well be dispensed with: it is not long enough to really harden the men for extended field service and breaks in very seriously upon systematic instruction in garrison, one or more of the organizations in a command of four or more companies being absent the greater part of the time. This involves constant changes in the men detailed for necessary work at the post: extra and special duty men, clerks and the like, who can not be replaced in many cases, causing embarrassment and delay in the administration of post affairs. This suggestion is not made under the conviction that too much practice marching is required of organizations belonging to the mobile army, but rather under the impression that the benefits resulting from short practice marches do not compensate for the interruption and delay in the administration of post affairs. With the creation of a general service corps, the necessity for which is so apparent, and has

been so fully presented by others that an additional argument is deemed unnecessary here, this whole question will be greatly simplified and the shorter practice marches can be made without detriment to equally important matters of administration and instruction and with benefit to all concerned.

It is not believed that the much exploited idea that the men themselves object to so much practice marching and leave the service in consequence of it is entitled to much, if any, consideration; it is not the actual marching that the infantry soldier so much objects to; the pack which he has to carry is believed to be the real cause of his grievance. Soldiers as a class, and as a rule, are willing to do most anything for which, to their minds, there is some apparent or logical reason, but there is a marked unwillingness to carry anything more on the person than is absolutely necessary on the march itself, or, in general terms, to carrying weight for the sake of the improved physical condition that may result. Experience teaches that few soldiers voluntarily use the poncho on the march, and it is not surprising that this should be so; it is troublesome to march in and affords very little protection to a great part of the body in heavy or driving rain. Ammunition in any quantity is also objected to as being so much dead weight, and of no use under the circumstances. The blanket also is much larger and heavier than is necessary for field use; if left to himself the average soldier, under average conditions, will carry a half blanket and find it sufficient for the purpose in hand. The carrying of such small articles as combs, etc., in the blanket roll is objectionable, because they are always in the way and are apt to get scattered around and lost in making camp, especially in bad weather, or after dark, or if the men are required to open their rolls for any purpose on the march. It is therefore believed that the following articles of field kit should be carried in the blanket roll and no others, viz: One half shelter tent, 5 shelter tent pins, 1 shelter tent pole, 1 blanket, 1 pair of stockings, 1 towel.

The comb, housewife, cake of soap, and toothbrush should be carried in the haversack, or in pockets provided, or the inside of the shelter tent half.

That the poncho be made a part of the surplus kit, to be carried in wagon or on pack animals; that for practice marches or drills with field kit ammunition be limited to 20 rounds per man; that inasmuch as practice marches are almost invariably made in moderate weather, and frequently—especially at Southern stations—in very warm weather, the question of allowing the men to carry half of the present blanket, or, preferably, of issuing a smaller and lighter blanket for this purpose, be considered by proper authority.

Very respectfully,

R. D. POTTS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.



REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES,
Chicago, Ill., July 1, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report for the Department of the Lakes for the period ended June 30, 1908:

CURRENT ADMINISTRATION.

The War Department has been duly informed of all movements and changes of station of officers and organizations since the date of the last annual report. Under the usual programme of relieving regiments after two years of Philippine service, the Seventh Infantry was placed in readiness for foreign service. The revocation of the order was unfortunately deferred until the regimental surplus baggage had been shipped to storage depots and the other baggage was being put aboard the train for shipment to San Francisco. The officers and men had all prepared themselves for Philippine service at considerable expense, many of the men having been specially enlisted for that service. The latter made application for transfer to other regiments, and in order to meet the implied contract on the part of the Government authority was granted by the War Department to carry out their wishes, and 178 men were transferred to regiments in the Philippines and were sent to San Francisco to sail on the first available transport. The Seventh Infantry remained at the same posts garrisoned by the regiment at the date of the last annual report. This necessitated a redistribution of the Second Infantry upon its arrival in this country, so that headquarters and eight companies were assigned to Fort Thomas and the remaining battalion was assigned to the Department of Dakota.

One company of the Tenth Infantry arrived in the department May 26 and took station at Fort Benjamin Harrison, near Indianapolis, Ind., to prepare the post for its new garrison, which will consist of the entire Tenth Infantry now being relieved from Alaskan stations.

Two mountain batteries were assigned to station at Fort Sheridan, Ill., more than a year ago. These batteries until very recently consisted of the officers and a nucleus of men. The batteries have now been filled up with recruits and animals have been recently assigned, but the batteries are not yet in shape to perform any service. The slowness with which the organization of these two batteries has progressed suggests the propriety of training more civilian packers with our large pack trains than are actually needed to handle them

in order that their services may be made available to assist in preparing the pack equipment for mountain batteries and machine-gun platoons. The knowledge required to set up *aparejos* and properly fit them to the mules in order to carry the heavy portions of mountain guns is of a special kind which is not ordinarily obtainable in civil life since the old pack trains of the frontier have disappeared. The government trains must in future constitute schools of instruction for packers in this country if we are to have efficient pack trains for supplies and for mountain and machine-gun batteries.

All the posts in the department are of modern construction and in good order. The barracks and quarters are all of an expensive type and require considerable appropriation for maintenance. This applies especially to fittings for water and sewer systems. Some of the fittings are reported as being of a special character not carried in stock on commercial trade lists and this involves considerable delay and expense in replacing broken parts. In future construction articles in common use, easily replaced, should be provided wherever practicable.

The quartermaster's supplies have been generally of good quality. The practice of filling clothing requisitions piecemeal from several depots is unsatisfactory. Small shipments are frequently much delayed, with the result that clothing requisitions of companies can rarely be filled at one issue. The issue of the full allowance of public animals fixed by field-service regulations and the organization of machine-gun platoons render it necessary to increase the stable accommodation of all the posts, and the work has been commenced.

Subsistence supplies have been generally of good quality, the total of condemned stores being insignificant in value.

The health of the command has been generally excellent during the year, and none of the sickness can be fairly traced to insanitary conditions at any of the posts in the department.

The discipline of the command has been generally good, but the number of trials by summary court continues large. A great variation, however, is observed at posts in this matter, some of them having habitually a much larger percentage of trials than others, indicating that the personal equation of the commanding officer has much to do with the enforcement of discipline.

Instructions were received at these headquarters January 22, 1908, directing that no order carrying mileage be issued without express authority of the War Department in each case. By telegram and indorsement this restriction was applied to inspections by the department commander and inspector-general, all of which were ordered suspended during the remainder of the fiscal year. The annual inspection usually made by the department commander in the spring was therefore omitted this year. The First Squadron, Thirteenth Cavalry; the Second Battalion, Fourth Field Artillery; two battalions of the Second Infantry, and one company of the Tenth Infantry arrived in the department since the date of the last inspection by the department commander of their respective posts.

General Orders, No. 177. War Department, series 1907, requires that in their inspections particular attention shall be paid by department commanders to the working of the system of practical training

for troops and the results given with suitable recommendations in their annual reports. By letter of June 27, 1908, from The Adjutant-General, the special attention of the department commander was called to this requirement and also to the desirability of recommendations regarding the articles required to be carried in the infantry pack. General Orders, No. 232, War Department, series 1907, requires the department commander, in person or through a qualified staff officer, to make a practical comparison of the relative efficiency of organizations.

As neither the department commander nor the inspector-general has made any inspection of the troops or posts since the date of the foregoing orders, it is not practicable to render the required reports. It is not known what rules were applied by the War Department in determining the relative importance of orders requiring expenditure of mileage. From the point of view of a department commander, his inspections and those of the inspector-general are of the utmost importance.

Since the date of the last annual report a serious condition of affairs in the army has been ameliorated through the increase of pay. It should be remembered, however, that the private soldiers receive but \$2 a month additional. Had business conditions continued at the high-water mark of the past two or three years this small increase would have cut but very little figure in the procurement of recruits. The first men to be cast out of employment when the recent business panic occurred were, of course, not the best men amongst the employees. The army therefore has received a great many men who were not especially desirable in their various fields of labor. The opportunities for good pay and permanent employment in the higher grades, as well as for perfection in marksmanship and by reenlistments, will serve as an inducement to a great many of these men to continue in service.

All the commanding officers on duty with troops, who realize to what a condition the army had been reduced a year ago, are practically a unit in the opinion that now is the propitious moment for returning captains to duty with their companies in order to build up first-class organizations. It does not seem profitable to wait for Congress to add additional officers to the army before taking this action. The frequently recurring tours of foreign service, with consequent reorganization of regiments, involving indiscriminate transfers, has done a great deal to break up regimental spirit which counted for so much in the efficiency in the army a few years ago. The whole corps of junior officers has become affected with the feeling that detached service is more potent for future preferment than duty with troops. Every species of detached service, including college details, should be made to give way at the present moment in behalf of line duty, and this should continue until all the recruits recently taken into the army have been thoroughly worked into shape with a view to selecting the best men for the important positions of noncommissioned officers, and thereby establishing at least a firm nucleus in each company and regiment to handle the new material inseparable from the frequent reorganizations previously mentioned as incident to foreign service every two or three years.

This earnest recommendation for the returning of captains to their organizations is not intended as any reflection on the experience or

ability of the lieutenants. Promotion is so slow in the grade of lieutenant at this time that a very large proportion of the second lieutenants have been in service eight or nine years, including their volunteer service. It was presumed when the detail system was inaugurated that the promotion of line officers incident thereto would make up in a marked degree for the addition of nine captains and lieutenants to each regiment without increase of field officers. It has become evident that the slow rate of promotion for the junior grades of the army has brought about a serious condition of affairs. Some action should be taken to institute a healthy flow of advancement in the immediate future. It is believed that the naval system of providing a certain proportion of vacancies in each grade each year will be the easiest legislation to obtain.

The insufficient number of regiments of infantry and cavalry for duty during the continuance of the present garrisons in Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines and Cuba works much hardship and extra expense to the Government as well as the individual. The tours of foreign service come with too brief intervals at home stations. The duty in the United States has become strenuous for men recently returned from tropical service. Constant demands upon the troops make it difficult to arrange for leaves of absence and furloughs between the periods of garrison schools, target practice, practice marches, and occasional camps of instruction. Additional regiments of infantry and a reorganization of the present regiments of cavalry are matters of urgency. In this connection attention is invited to my annual report for 1907.

TARGET PRACTICE AND COMPETITIONS.

The northern and army competitions were held at Fort Sheridan, Ill., between July 21 and August 17, 1907, under the personal supervision of the department commander. Under the present firing regulations a great number of officers are required to conduct the ordinary target practice of organizations and a proportionately larger number for competitions. In addition, a large number of officers attend competitions as competitors. It is essential that officers should know how to shoot in order to instruct their men, but the presence of so many officers at competitions means their absence from their proper commands at a season when all outdoor instruction should be pushed to the limit. It is therefore recommended that in future officers be not ordered to the competitions as competitors. Since the enactment of the law granting \$2 per month to men qualifying as marksmen, \$3 for sharpshooters, and \$5 for expert riflemen, no competitions or medals are needed to induce strenuous efforts to become good shots. The expense for mileage and transportation of officers and men attending competitions is considerable, but not of the same importance as the long absences from their organizations in the open season. The importance of making every soldier a good shot is realized and insisted upon, for it is the general average rather than the presence of a few experts which fixes the standard of efficiency of an army. Holding these views, it is a source of genuine satisfaction to know that the Department of the Lakes stood at the head of the army in the general figure of merit for last year's firing. It is believed that the record for the whole army could be materially improved if target practice be

not hurried to get ready for competitions, camps of instruction, and other duties.

Eight companies of infantry and many extra officers were ordered to Camp Perry for duty during the national match of 1907. For similar work this year eighteen companies have been ordered, ten from this department and eight from the Department of the East. It would seem that the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the National Guard should not be deprived of furnishing their quota of officers and men to conduct the national match. Not only would this be fair, but it would distribute the heavy charge for mileage and transportation now borne by the appropriation for the army. The ten companies of infantry from this department do not participate in the camp of instruction. The question arises as to the relative value of all-around instruction of the troops and that obtained by serving at competitions. If both are of equal value, then it is suggested that camps of instruction be held every other year, alternating with competitions. This would enable the army to make a better showing at the camps. There will not be a complete regiment of infantry, squadron of cavalry, or battalion of field artillery available for the maneuvers this year in this department.

ARMY STOREHOUSE IN CHICAGO.

The great amount of business done in Chicago for the army at large renders it necessary to rent two storehouses and a stable. The volume of business is likely to increase rather than diminish. For army purposes it is not necessary that the storehouses should be located in the congested district known as "the loop." It is recommended that authority be granted to employ an architect to prepare plans for a general storehouse to accommodate all departments and a stable. The accommodations for trucks, wagons, etc., required in a government stable are greater than those usually found in private stables, and not great enough to justify renting a public or livery stable. If authorized to proceed in the matter a board will be convened to prepare the data showing expenditures under present system, cost of proposed new buildings and site, and a comparison of the proposed investment with that on which present rentals represent the interest. The two storehouses now rented are not modern fireproof buildings such as should be erected for government purposes.

A GENERAL SERVICE CORPS.

The absence of a general service corps in our army seriously affects the efficiency and contentment of line organizations. The incessant calls for working details from small companies, both in garrison and in the field, impair soldierly spirit and detract from the value of all drills and maneuvers. A corps of men suited for the general service work could be largely recruited from old soldiers grown tired of the daily routine essential for the instruction of recruits who, under our volunteer system, join throughout the year, instead of in annual drafts. This subject has been under discussion for many years and all opinions have been favorable to it. The presence of general serv-

ice men in a garrison would enable the line troops to be moved at once to the field without disorganizing the whole machinery of supply, police, and sanitation of permanent posts. It is believed that the establishment of such a corps would retain many experienced soldiers who now take their discharges, and would also tend to lessen desertions of those young men who think they have been deceived as to the real conditions of army life when called upon for the performance of all kinds of labor. In the field all soldiers understand that any work necessary to be done is a legitimate duty, but they have always resented the "fatigue" detail system for caring for the modern posts, with their lawns and reservations.

CIVIL EMPLOYMENT FOR HONORABLY DISCHARGED SOLDIERS.

It is well to remember that there are always numbers of high-class soldiers who prefer the military service to the narrower life of factories and shops, and if they are encouraged and kept contented they are a better inducement to recruits than circulars and posters. Many officers have recommended legislation for the encouragement of these men during the past thirty years. The enactment of a law giving to all honorably discharged soldiers of excellent character after six years' service the right to any civil employment under the Government, without examination, would unquestionably prove an incentive of the highest order. In any event such positions as army clerks, messengers, and other employees under the War Department should be given to honorably discharged soldiers, without examination, in preference to all applicants; and so long as a sufficient number of these shall make application for employment no other persons should be considered.

POST LIBRARIES.

During the period when the army was for the most part isolated in frontier posts much attention was given to keeping up small libraries from the post fund or bakery savings. Libraries exist only in name at the posts in this department, the reading matter usually found being confined to the papers and periodicals supplied by the War Department. There is little or no profit from post exchanges now available for books. Some companies make feeble efforts to keep up libraries, but this should not be encouraged, because the same books are carried about all the time at government expense, when by dependence upon post libraries a wider range of reading could be obtained. Attention should be directed toward building up small libraries at each post and provision made annually for small increments of new books and for fresh bindings upon those much used.

TRANSPORTATION OF TROOPS.

The routing of troops often depends upon the slight advantage to be obtained through utilizing pieces of land-grant and bond-aided railroads. Before the days of trunk lines, when the country was sparsely settled, it appeared advantageous for the Government to demand free transportation from struggling companies engaged in building lines to develop various localities. Many of these short lines

have become insignificant parts of great systems. The legal requirements, however, demand that bond-aided and land-grant roads shall be considered in every transaction with the Government. Purchase of through tickets for individuals is interfered with, although in most instances they are cheaper than split tickets with transportation orders over indebted portions. Officers habitually forfeit mileage in such cases rather than suffer the inconvenience of not having through tickets available for checking baggage. General Orders, No. 41, War Department, 1907, contains lists of the railroads involved. The settlement of accounts, particularly of through movements of troops or freight, is nagging, complicated, and expensive. The construction of the roads generally has long since repaid the Government in the wonderful development of the wilderness into which they all more or less penetrated at a time when dividends were dependent upon future settlers and the improvements they should make. The railroads generally are justly entitled to credit for a very large part of the industrial and agricultural development that has brought marvelous prosperity and riches to this country. The altruistic spirit of the American people which recently induced the nation to surrender millions of dollars of the Chinese indemnity fund would not fail to appreciate the justice of giving a clean slate to roads under obligations to the Government for aid given a generation or more ago. With this accomplished the Government would be able to eliminate a half century's accumulation of regulations governing the settlement of indebted railroad accounts and enable the clerical force engaged to be transferred to other work. With the railroads all on an equal footing the Government would then be in a position to fix a flat rate for the movements by rail of all officers and men of the army and navy. This should be agreed upon after a consideration of the cost of service. With the establishment of a uniform tariff all disbursing officers and railroad agents would understand exactly where they stand in relation to government business. Action along these lines is recommended by considerations of public policy as well as business expediency.

Very respectfully,

WM. H. CARTER,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Omaha, Nebr., June 30, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the affairs and administration of the Department of the Missouri for that part of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, following October 9, 1907, the date I assumed command thereof by General Orders, No. 124, Department of the Missouri, consequent to the retirement from active service that date of Brig. Gen. Edward S. Godfrey, who had continued in command from the end of the preceding fiscal year and who rendered the last annual report of this department. The administration of the affairs of the department has been conducted strictly in accord with the spirit and letter of laws, regulations, orders, and what has been considered the most economical and best interests of the service. The department commander has been assisted by a harmonious, capable, zealous, and painstaking body of staff officers and a corps of willing, industrious, and efficient clerks, and each item of business has been carefully recorded and fully reported. The administration of affairs on all lines has been efficient and satisfactory generally by post commanders, with the exception of their embarrassments resulting from the shortage of officers due to detached service and of enlisted men due to expiration of enlistments and the slow filling of ranks with recruits. A report of the details of the affairs of the department seems, therefore, unnecessary and would be superfluous. Accordingly the features of principal interest only are touched upon.

It appears from the records that little or nothing unusual or that requires special mention herein transpired within the department from July 1 to October 9, 1907, excepting the arrival in and departure of troops from the department, an account of which is given elsewhere in the changes during the year, and in the movements and operations of troops.

The personal staff of the undersigned and the department staff on June 30, 1908, were as follows:

Personal staff.—First Lieut. Irvin L. Hunsaker, Ninth Cavalry, aid-de-camp; Second Lieut. Troup Miller, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp.

Department staff.—Chief of staff, Lieut. Col. William P. Evans, General Staff; adjutant-general, Maj. Chase W. Kennedy, Adjutant-General's Department; judge-advocate, Capt. Fred E. Buchan, Ninth Cavalry, acting judge-advocate; chief quartermaster, Maj. Daniel E. McCarthy, Quartermaster's Department; chief commissary, Capt.

Theodore B. Hacker, Subsistence Department; chief surgeon, Lieut. Col. William B. Davis, Medical Corps; chief paymaster, Maj. Herbert M. Lord, Pay Department; chief signal officer, Lieut. Col. William A. Glassford, Signal Corps; chief engineer officer, Capt. Edward H. Schulz, Corps of Engineers; chief ordnance officer, First Lieut. Irvin L. Hunsaker, Ninth Cavalry, aid-de-camp; inspector small-arms practice, Maj. Chase W. Kennedy, Adjutant-General's Department.

The strength of the command on June 30, 1908, was as follows:

	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.
General officers.....	2	.....	2
Staff departments.....	38	278	316
Engineers.....	17	608	625
Signal Corps.....	7	208	215
Cavalry.....	197	3,087	3,284
Artillery.....	65	1,589	1,654
Infantry.....	108	1,976	2,084
Total.....	434	7,766	8,200
Aggregate.....			8,200

The strength at posts as shown by post returns for June, 1908, was as follows:

	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.
Fort Crook, Nebr.....	38	561	599
Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo.....	38	652	690
Fort Des Moines, Iowa.....	52	761	813
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.....	108	2,455	2,563
Fort Mackenzie, Wyo.....	15	281	296
Fort Meade, S. Dak.....	41	341	382
Fort Omaha, Nebr.....	7	218	225
Fort Riley, Kans.....	92	1,954	2,046
Fort Robinson, Nebr.....	36	507	543
Fort Washakie, Wyo.....	3	61	64
At department headquarters and stationed at cities in the department..	14	5	19
Total.....	434	7,766	8,200
Aggregate.....			8,200

The gains and losses of organizations were as follows:

Gains.—July 20, 1907, Third Squadron, Thirteenth Cavalry, at Fort Leavenworth from Fort Sill. July 24, 1907, entire Seventh Cavalry, at Fort Riley from Philippines Division. August 25, 1907, Troop K, Second Cavalry, at Fort Des Moines from Fort Snelling. November 29, 1907, headquarters, band, and First and Third Squadrons, Fourth Cavalry, at Fort Meade from Philippines Division. September 23, 1907, headquarters, band, Second and Third Battalions, Sixteenth Infantry, Fort Crook from Philippines Division. October 24, 1907, headquarters, band, First and Third Battalions, Thirteenth Infantry, Fort Leavenworth from Philippines Division. November 5, 1907, Second Battalion, Thirteenth Infantry, Fort Leavenworth from Philippines Division. February 27, 1908, Third Battalion, Nineteenth Infantry, at Fort Mackenzie from Fort Reno. May 13, 1908, Batteries D and E, Fifth Field Artillery, at Fort Leavenworth from Philippines Division.

Losses.—July 26, 1907, First Squadron, Thirteenth Cavalry, from Fort Riley to Fort Sheridan. September 2, 1907, headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, E, G, and H, Sixth Cavalry, from Fort Meade to Philippines Division. November 29, 1907, Troops D and F, Sixth Cavalry, from Fort Meade to Philippines Division. September 29, 1907, entire Eighteenth Infantry from Fort Leavenworth to Philippines Division. February 27, 1908, First Battalion, Fourth Infantry, from Fort Mackenzie to Philippines Division. September 2, 1907, headquarters, staff, and band, Fifth Field Artillery, from Fort Leavenworth to Philippines Division. February 14, 1908, Batteries A and B, Fifth Field Artillery, from Fort Leavenworth to Philippines Division. May 11, 1908, Troops E and H, Eighth Cavalry, from Fort D. A. Russell to Yellowstone Park. June 1, 1908, Battery D, Second Field Artillery, from Fort D. A. Russell to Philippines Division.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF.

There was no officer on duty in this office during the fiscal year until December 14, 1907, when Lieut. Col. W. P. Evans, General Staff, assumed the duties of chief of staff.

OFFICE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

The duties of adjutant-general were performed by Maj. C. R. Noyes from the beginning of the fiscal year until April 9, 1908, when he was relieved by Maj. C. W. Kennedy, who has been in charge of the office to date.

Inadequate clerical force.—The discontinuance of military divisions transferred most of the business of those headquarters to those of the departments, with no corresponding increase of the clerical force for these headquarters; to this was added the distribution of orders, blanks, etc., with still no increase of force. The paper work at these headquarters is simply enormous. The receipts of official communications in a single day often run into the hundreds. These vary from short telegrams to documents of several hundred pages. All have to be carefully scrutinized, to determine if correct, in accordance with law and regulations, and referred or filed. Many require careful study and judicial action. The officers and clerks work assiduously, not only full hours, but voluntarily after hours, Sundays, and holidays, and even take public work to their homes. It is earnestly urged that the special applications for increase of force receive favorable action of the War Department. It should be borne in mind that this is one of the largest military departments.

Paper work.—The paper work of the army seems to be a growing evil, and the volume that now requires the personal consideration and action of post and department commanders keeps them so fully occupied that they have not sufficient time to properly lay out and personally supervise practical work. The attempt to do both results in lack of thoroughness in either. Upon declaration of war most of the present paper work or the prosecution of the war will have to be abandoned.

It is suggested that each regiment should have a chief clerk whose duty is limited to clerical work, or two sergeants-major, one exclusively for clerical, the other for practical work.

Defective form.—The form (No. 59, A. G. O.) of monthly report of cases tried by summary courts is defective in not showing the names and rank of trial and approving officers, preventing the ready determination by superior authority of the legality of trials. A number of illegal cases during the year were not detected till some time later, and many cases imposed sentences of confinement.

OFFICE INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

The Northern Division was discontinued on June 30, 1907, and the duties of the inspector-general of the department began with the new fiscal year, when Maj. Loyd S. McCormick opened the office. He was relieved on the 25th of October, 1907, by Maj. Jacob G. Galbraith.

Due principally to shortage of available funds for payment of mileage, referred to elsewhere, much of the work of the department inspector has been left undone. Ordinarily the work is too much for one officer to perform, and the detail of an additional officer of the Inspector-General's Department is recommended for duty at these headquarters.

In addition to the customary routine office duty of a department inspector, many of the reports of surveys relating to business of his department have been referred to him for remark, from which has resulted improvement and more uniformity of procedure, and, it is believed, less extravagance and waste.

OFFICE JUDGE-ADVOCATE.

First Lieut. William G. Doane, Twenty-second Infantry, acting judge-advocate, was in charge of the office from the beginning of the fiscal year until December 6, 1907, when he was relieved by Capt. Fred E. Buchan, Ninth Cavalry, acting judge-advocate, who has performed the duties of the office to date.

Trials by general courts-martial.—Commissioned officers, 2; convicted, 2; enlisted men, 607; military convicts, 11; total 620; convicted, 585; sentences disapproved, 10; acquitted, 33. The total trials show an increase of 78 over the number of last year. Of the enlisted men convicted, 316 were sentenced to dishonorable discharge; of these, 19 were sentenced on account of previous convictions. Of the 316 convicts, 152 were transferred to the United States Military Prison, Fort Leavenworth, Kans. (exclusive of those tried at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.); of the remainder, 27 are in confinement at eight posts in the department about equally distributed.

The following affords a comparison of the average enlisted strength of the department and the number of convictions by general courts-martial for part of three years:

Year.	Average enlisted strength.	Convic- tions by general courts-mar- tial.	Per cent.
1905-6.....	8,921	786	7.9
1906-7.....	7,481	484	6.4
1907-8.....	6,889	565	8.6

Of the 202 convictions for desertion, 75 were from posts outside of the department, 22 from Jefferson Barracks, 26 from Fort D. A. Russell, 27 from Fort Riley, 21 from Fort Leavenworth, 13 from Fort Meade, 7 from Fort Mackenzie, 6 from Fort Crook, and 5 from Fort Robinson.

Trials by inferior courts-martial.—Regimental and garrison courts-martial: Trials, 20; acquittals, 2; men tried, 20. Summary courts-martial: Trials, 4,673; acquittals, 186; men tried, 3,343. Four hundred and nineteen of the cases tried were first offenses, mostly of a trivial nature, many of which could properly have been disposed of under provisions of paragraph 960, Army Regulations.

Seven hundred and forty-four cases were charged as drunkenness and sixty-nine others directly traceable to use of intoxicating liquors. No doubt there were a great number of other offenses that can be properly attributed to the same cause, all of which illustrated the baneful results of the unrestricted sales of bad liquors by low resorts near military reservations, and is strong argument for the regulated sale of mild liquors on government reservations.

The following affords a comparison of the average enlisted strength of the department and the number of trials by summary and garrison courts for three years:

Year.	Strength.	Trials.	Percent.
1905.....	8,921	8,148	91.3
1906.....	7,481	6,442	86.1
1907.....	6,889	4,673	67.8

The following shows the average enlisted strength of the several posts and the number of summary and garrison court trials for the year 1907-8:

Post.	Strength.	Trials.	Percent.
Fort Crook, Nebr.....	357	258	72.3
Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo.....	616	335	46.8
Fort Des Moines, Iowa.....	738	621	84.1
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.....	2,144	977	46
Fort Mackenzie, Wyo.....	221	250	113
Fort Meade, S. Dak.....	445	414	93
Fort Omaha, Nebr.....	261	146	55.9
Fort Riley, Kans.....	1,571	1,131	72
Fort Robinson, Nebr.....	386	504	131
Fort Washakie, Wyo.....	63	37	58.7

Although a number of indictments by federal grand juries have been secured for bartering in government property and the prosecutions therefor have been generally successful in the courts, this continues to be a source of annoyance, especially at the larger posts. Such legislation should be secured as will definitely fix a soldier's clothing as government property, and make it unlawful for any person outside the military service to have possession thereof. Provision should be made for disposition *within the service* of the uniform clothing of a soldier about to be discharged by a fair valuation or sale at auction to men of the command and credit be given to the soldier discharged.

In the United States circuit court for the district of Kansas in the matter of the application of Military Convict Charles E. McCullough for a writ of habeas corpus, court-martial jurisdiction was again fully sustained.

Summary court for officers.—The provision of paragraph 931, Army Regulations, that officers will not be placed in arrest for light offenses is a source of embarrassment to post commanders, as to just what specific cases higher authority may consider should come in this class. There is occasionally a character so insensitive or indifferent to the admonitions and censure of his commanding officers that such action is not thoroughly remedial for habitual offenses of a minor character, or such that no one is of sufficient gravity of itself to warrant the long arrest, slow and expensive procedure of a trial by general court-martial—such as untidiness in dress and appearance, immoderate behavior, wearing mixed uniform, lack of preparation for recitations, lack of promptness at calls, lack of thoroughness in the discharge of duties, submitting carelessly prepared and incomplete papers, failing to make reports and answering official communications promptly, etc., many of which delay business, make additional work for others, particularly for the commanding officers, all of which are unnecessary annoyances, detrimental to the service, and sometimes irritating and exasperating. Legislation is suggested for a summary court of restricted jurisdiction and powers for trial of commissioned officers below field grade for minor offenses.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER.

Maj. Thomas Cruse, quartermaster, U. S. Army, was on duty as chief quartermaster from the commencement of the fiscal year up to October 18, 1907, when he was relieved by Maj. Thomas Swobe, temporarily in charge, until he was relieved by Maj. D. E. McCarthy, quartermaster, U. S. Army, on February 15, 1908.

Statement of funds.—On hand July 1, 1907, \$174,963.98; received, \$2,089,678; total, \$2,264,641.98. Disbursed, \$2,021,817.53; on hand June 30, 1908, \$242,824.45.

Troops, public property, and animals transported.—Passengers, 11,300; animals, 3,450; property, including quartermaster's supplies, subsistence stores, ordnance stores, medical stores, signal stores, and miscellaneous, 28,071,998 pounds.

Public animals.—The total number of animals on hand June 30, 1907, was 5,113; received during the year, 2,223; transferred 1,298. Remaining on hand June 30, 1908: Cavalry horses, 3,152; artillery horses, 1,192; draft horses, 233; draft mules, 978; pack mules, 483; total, 6,038.

Uniform collars.—The uniform white linen collar supplied has but an average width of 1½ inches, is too narrow to show above the collar of the uniform coats, and should be at least one-fourth inch wider. The exceedingly cheap price makes the change entirely practicable.

Campaign hats.—The campaign hat will not, under service conditions, retain long the shape when issued, and so long as it does it holds rain on the top to soak through or slop over and wet the wearer. It soon breaks down flat to the head, leaves no ventilation space, breaks in holes, front and rear, and gives a soldier the ap-

pearance of a tramp. Worn in the shape known as the Montana or Wyoming peak, every one of these faults is remedied, and the soldier is given a sprightly, buccaneer air, and the hat has a much longer endurance.

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY.

Capt. T. B. Hacker, commissary, U. S. Army, has had charge of this office throughout the year, excepting the last two months, while on leave of absence, the office during that period being in temporary charge of Capt. W. F. Clark, pay department.

Funds.—Received during year, \$284,660.29; disbursed, \$283,733.54; balance on hand June 30, \$926.75.

Stores.—The stores furnished to the posts of the department by the different purchasing commissaries have all been entirely satisfactory. All requisitions are now made and the supplies furnished monthly, the danger of overstocking a post with any article, causing loss, being reduced to a minimum.

Losses.—Subsistence stores lost by condemnation during the past year have been very small, the total valuation \$1,016.27; of this amount there was charged against transportation companies and others \$342.25. During the preceding year there was considerable loss on fresh vegetables at some of the posts of the department, due to inadequate storage facilities, but at these posts repairs were made to the root cellars, with the result that out of a total of 1,500,000 pounds potatoes stored last winter at ten posts of the department and at the military prison there was no loss other than ordinary wastage. During the year new root houses were completed at Forts Leavenworth and D. A. Russell.

Fresh beef.—There has been no complaint as to the quality of fresh beef supplied during the year. All contracts have been satisfactorily filled. Nearly all of the beef is supplied under contracts with the large packing houses and is government inspected. There was considerable increase in the price of beef at all of the posts, and in the price for the last half of the year over the price for the corresponding period of the year before.

The chief commissary of the department is also the purchasing commissary at Omaha, and as such he shipped from the Omaha depot 3,453,708 pounds of stores, and from contractors' storehouses 469,346 pounds. All articles of the ration and for sales are purchased at Omaha. There were purchased during the year 1,051,622 pounds potatoes and 72,582 pounds onions without complaint as to quality.

Cooking furniture and utensils.—On July 1, 1907, the quartermaster's department transferred all cooking apparatus for troops traveling (except by transports), field cooking, and bake ovens to the subsistence department. All parts of the field cooking apparatus which were unserviceable when transferred have been replaced by serviceable articles or repaired and troops are now fully supplied therewith.

OFFICE CHIEF SURGEON.

Lieut. Col. John M. Banister, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, was chief surgeon of the department from June 28, 1907, to October 17, 1907.

Lieut. Col. William B. Davis, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, assumed those duties October 31, 1907.

Medical officers.—The medical officers of the department at the end of the fiscal year consisted of 23 medical officers of the regular establishment, 13 contract surgeons, and 2 dental surgeons.

The aggregate number of hospital corps men in the department at the end of the fiscal year was 40 noncommissioned officers and 199 privates; the number to which the department was entitled (based on maximum strength of garrisons) being 55 noncommissioned officers and 222 privates, a shortage of 15 noncommissioned officers and 23 privates.

An examination of the tabulated returns of the medical department shows that Fort Meade, S. Dak., has the lowest percentage of sickness, 2.4 per cent, closely followed by Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., with 2.9 per cent. The largest per cent of troops noneffective was at Fort Omaha, Nebr., 4.9 per cent. The troops in the field in South Dakota had a lower rate, 0.6 per cent, as did also the troops at Fort Washakie, Wyo. (which were in camp a large portion of the year), with a rate of 2.1 per cent noneffective. The number of troops, however, being small in comparison, is not considered in ratings with the posts.

During the year 93 enlisted men were discharged for disability. Thirty of these cases originated in line of duty and 61 not in line of duty. Of the latter, 50 are reported to be from diseases incurred prior to enlistment. This would seem to suggest the necessity for more careful examination of applicants for enlistment.

There were 33 deaths among officers and enlisted men during the fiscal year, 2 more than the preceding year. Of these deaths, 26 occurred in line of duty and 7 not in line of duty.

The present method of recruiting the Hospital Corps by transfer of selected men from the line is the cause of frequent complaint by company commanders. It is believed that the method now followed is not conducive to discipline, and that it subordinates the interest of companies to the interest of a staff department. The claim that the Hospital Corps must have disciplined men is now no more valid than would be a similar claim on the part of a company. Medical officers now have rank exactly the same as officers of the line, and it is believed that they should accept its responsibilities as well as its privileges by disciplining their own recruits and fitting them for service instead of selecting their men from among those who have been recruited and trained for the line of the army. The advantage that the Medical Department would have in the selection of its men would still be very great, as all the enlistments for the army are now made by medical officers.

If transfer from the line must still be made it is believed that such transfers should be made by requisition on organizations, the commanders of which should select the men to fill the requisition, with the approval of their post commanders.

OFFICE CHIEF PAYMASTER.

Maj. George T. Holloway, Pay Department, was in charge of this office from the beginning of the fiscal year until November 2, 1907,

when he was relieved by Maj. H. M. Lord, Pay Department, who has performed the duties of the office to date.

The disbursements of this department during the year amounted to \$3,894,845.70.

OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER OFFICER.

The office and duties of chief engineer officer of the department were in charge of Lieut. Col. W. H. Bixby, Corps of Engineers, Chicago, Ill., from July 1 to October 15, 1907, and since in charge of Capt. Edward H. Schulz, Corps of Engineers.

The office force has consisted of one civilian topographical assistant during the entire year, and since January 27, 1908, one enlisted man, as clerk, from the Third Battalion of Engineers.

The records, maps, and property pertaining to this office and department were shipped, owing to discontinuance of military divisions, from Chicago during October, 1907. They have been thoroughly examined, indexed, and filed.

Work accomplished during the year.—The progressive military map of the United States has been continued; six quadrangles were surveyed, maps completed and forwarded to the Military Information Division of the General Staff and to the Director of Geological Survey, through military channels, as follows: Winthrop (Iowa), Farley (Iowa), Rock Island (Iowa and Illinois), Sherman (Wyoming), Harney Peak (South Dakota), and Hermosa (South Dakota).

For the coming year the department commander has selected the following seven quadrangles: Edgemont (South Dakota), Fort Steele (Wyoming), Browns Creek (Nebraska), Weeping Water (Nebraska), Peosta (Iowa), Hiawatha (Kansas), and Minneapolis (Kansas).

A sketch map has been made of the Department of the Missouri, showing quadrangles which have been surveyed by the Geological Survey, those that have not been surveyed, and those that have been surveyed or resurveyed by the officers of progressive military map making.

The following maps were made:

Tracing of the Department of the Missouri showing the national forests in the department, viz: Yellowstone, Big Horn, Bear Lodge, Sierra Madre, Medicine Bow, Crow Creek, Cave Hill, Short Pine Hills, Slim Butte, Niobrara, North Platte, Dismal River, and Garden City.

Tracing of Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., target range.

Tracing of Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, S. Dak.

Tracing of Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., target and maneuver reservation (Crow Creek National Forest).

Various tracings showing route marches, etc.

A post map of Fort Des Moines and vicinity to scale one-half inch to 1 mile for a radius of 50 miles has been begun.

A survey of the target range and reservation at Arcadia, Mo., with full report, was made by Lieut. R. D. Black, Corps of Engineers, and detachment of engineer troops.

The issues of engineer supplies were made to troops of this department from time to time in accordance with General Orders, Nos. 73 and 221, War Department, 1907.

The amount of money allotted for and paid during the year to the civilian assistant to the engineer officer was \$1,500.

OFFICE CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER.

First Lieut. Irvin L. Hunsaker, Ninth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, has been chief ordnance officer from December 31, 1907, until the end of the year. His chief duties have been almost wholly routine.

A few reports have been received in reference to the defects of the new issue rifles and ammunition, the principal of which pointed out are: Firing pin sear notch, sleeve and ejector heel broken or cracked after firing a few rounds, and bullets stick in the barrel when attempt is made to withdraw loaded shells or fall out in handling the cartridge. The Ordnance Department has been furnished these reports and from past experience there is reason to believe that the defects of manufacture will soon be remedied.

The following increases in allowance of certain supplies are recommended:

(a) That the authorized allowance of cleaning material for cavalry and infantry organizations when stationed at post of Fort Leavenworth be increased at least 50 per cent. In this connection attention is called to the fact that the allowance of cleaning material for an infantry and cavalry organization is based upon an authorized strength of 65 enlisted men for cavalry and 75 for infantry, while at this post the authorized strength of an infantry and cavalry organization is 110 and 100 enlisted, respectively. It is the opinion of this office that such allowances are insufficient.

(b) That the authorized allowance of ammunition that may be expended for target practice, instruction, etc., of machine-gun platoons be materially increased. As these guns use ammunition now practically obsolete for other purposes, and of which there is no doubt a considerable quantity on hand, it is thought the allowance could be increased without great expense. This old ammunition should be used without much restriction of allowance in order that data for future use may be obtained.

There should be a fixed increase of allowance of blank ammunition for use at maneuver camps. The amounts necessary for the regular instruction of organizations differ with varying conditions of the personnel of organizations. Preparing for the maneuver camps this year some organizations were found to have no blank ammunition whatever, having exhausted their allowance. This need is specially true of the machine-gun platoons which have at present no allowance.

OFFICE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

Lieut. Col. William A. Glassford, Signal Corps, also commanding Fort Omaha, Nebr., relieved First Lieut. Otto B. Grimm, Signal Corps, from temporary charge of the duties of chief signal officer on September 25, 1907.

The work of the Signal Corps in the department involved the reconstruction of several post telephone systems. For this purpose competent enlisted men of the Signal Corps were sent out from Fort Omaha, Nebr. The work done at posts is as follows:

At Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., the reconstruction of the system was under way when complaint was made regarding the unsightly appear-

ance of the telephone poles furnished that post, and work was suspended in January pending receipt of further instructions. The Chief Signal Officer of the Army desired that all crooked poles be replaced, and new poles were purchased locally at the post, and the work of reconstruction is now in progress. This system will consist of open aerial wire lines.

At Fort Omaha, Nebr., a standard system was installed, consisting of open aerial wire lines.

At Fort Riley, Kans., a subterranean central energy system with 100 telephones and a switchboard of 200-drop capacity with 150 drops installed has been authorized and the material for same is now on hand. The work on this installation has already commenced.

Estimate and plans have been prepared for a subterranean central energy system approved for Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., the installation of which has been delayed awaiting decision as to the future plans of that post relative to buildings and extensions contemplated by the Quartermaster's Department.

At Fort Crook, Nebr., the system was in progress of reconstruction and nearly completed when the recent cyclone demolished all overhead lines. Additional material has been called for on requisitions and the work of rebuilding is now in progress.

At Fort Robinson, Nebr., the entire system was reconstructed, consisting of part aerial lead-covered cable and the remainder of open aerial wire lines.

The annual inspection of post telephone systems is now being made by a competent noncommissioned officer of the Signal Corps. Inspection reports so far received from posts indicate considerable carelessness in handling the target-range equipment, especially the outlet boxes and field telephones, which were usually found in poor condition and badly in need of repairs. Remedial measures are on foot in regard thereto.

A telegraph office was established at Fort Meade, S. Dak., in November, 1907, connecting with the Western Union wire, and an enlisted man of the Signal Corps stationed at that post as operator. A telegraph office will also be established at Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., upon completion of the new telephone system.

The telegraph service at posts transacted by the signal corps operators has been performed in a very satisfactory manner during the year.

General Orders, No. 97, War Department, 1906, is so construed that neither private telephones nor the commercial telephone service contracted for by the Quartermaster's Department may be connected with the signal corps system, but each must be "entirely separate installations." This condition does not give entire satisfaction either in posts or to the commercial companies, and causes vexatious annoyance to the administrative officers of the post and to those who may desire to communicate with them at times other than when they are in their offices. It is believed that existing orders should be changed so as to permit a more satisfactory system of communication between the administrative officers of posts and the centers of population and of business interests exterior to the posts. There would seem to be no satisfactory reason why the lines of commercial telephones should not be connected directly with the signal corps switchboard, so as

to permit connection with every telephone in the signal corps system, doing away with the commercial switchboard or adopting its use in conjunction with the signal corps switchboard, thereby increasing the efficiency of the service. In several cases commercial companies have expressed their willingness to do this without any additional expense to the Government, and there seems no reason why this should not be permissible.

It is therefore suggested that the words in paragraph 3, General Orders, No. 97, War Department, 1906, "an entirely separate installation from the government lines" may be construed to mean that the commercial system and the signal corps system must be so installed that the former can be discontinued at any moment without interfering with the latter. For an illustration of the manner in which this modification would operate, attention is invited to the last paragraph of the inspection report of the telephone system at Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., dated June 19, 1908.

OFFICE INSPECTOR SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

This office has been in charge of the adjutant-general of the department, Maj. C. R. Noyes, to April 9, 1908, and Maj. C. W. Kennedy till the close of the year.

The results of target firing of the troops in this department in 1907 were published in General Orders, No. 170, these headquarters, December 31, 1907. The number qualified in each class is compared with previous years as follows:

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Expert riflemen	169	275	112	45	5	-----
Sharpshooters	631	1,119	539	300	144	143
Marksmen	455	1,109	504	384	132	121
First class	798	1,864	1,472	1,109	470	366
Second class	733	1,562	1,759	1,768	1,096	713
Third class	736	1,025	1,506	2,558	2,876	2,201

The percentage of the whole number of those qualified in each class is compared with previous years as follows:

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Expert riflemen	4.80	3.94	1.90	0.75	0.11	-----
Sharpshooters	17.91	16.48	9.15	4.91	3.00	4.00
Marksmen	12.92	15.90	8.56	5.47	2.80	3.60
First class	22.66	26.73	24.98	18.13	9.90	11.20
Second class	20.61	22.25	29.85	28.80	23.60	20.60
Third class	20.90	14.70	25.56	41.90	61.20	60.70

The total number of officers and enlisted men qualifying at target practice, including those entitled to hold-over and reduced classification, under the provisions of A. R. 1373 as amended by General Orders, No. 154, War Department, series of 1907, was 3,522. In 1906, 1905, 1904, 1903, and 1902 the totals were 6,974, 5,892, 6,104, 4,725, and 3,566, respectively.

The following enlisted men of the department obtained places on the rifle and pistol teams, selected at the northern rifle and pistol

competitions, Fort Sheridan, Ill., or while attending the competitions as distinguished marksmen or pistol shots:

Northern rifle team.

	Order.
Gasham F. Hunt, corporal, Company C, Eighteenth Infantry.....	1
Willis F. Hawkins, sergeant, Company C, Fourth Infantry.....	2
Charles Dissing, first sergeant, Troop B, Eighth Cavalry.....	5
Harry C. Gardner, artificer, Company G, Eighteenth Infantry.....	6
Oscar A. Iverson, first sergeant, Company D, Eighteenth Infantry.....	9
Emile D. Rutter, corporal, Troop M, Eighth Cavalry.....	10
Albert E. Harrow, musician, Company M, Eleventh Infantry.....	11
James C. May, corporal, Company L, Third Battalion Engineers.....	12
George A. Thorsby, sergeant, Troop I, Eighth Cavalry.....	13
Harry F. Hicks, musician, Company M, Eighteenth Infantry.....	14
Frank Dapkus, sergeant, Troop L, Eighth Cavalry.....	15
James H. Washburn, first sergeant, Troop B, Second Cavalry.....	16
John Mulligan, sergeant, Troop D, Thirteenth Cavalry.....	22

Northern pistol team.

Jack Mathews, quartermaster sergeant, Troop E, Eighth Cavalry.....	1
Daniel R. Raymond, private, Troop B, Eighth Cavalry.....	3
Albert Nove, mechanic, Battery A, Sixth Field Artillery.....	4
Robert W. Elder, sergeant, Troop B, Thirteenth Cavalry.....	5
Robert A. Corkins, private, Troop I, Eighth Cavalry.....	7
Clem Carney, quartermaster sergeant, Troop D, Sixth Cavalry.....	8
Ernest Kuhr, sergeant, Troop D, Eighth Cavalry.....	10
John G. Hiller, cook, Troop K, Eighth Cavalry.....	11
Frank J. Warpecha, corporal, Troop A, Sixth Cavalry.....	13

On the army rifle team and army pistol team, selected at the army competitions held at Fort Sheridan, Ill., were the following:

Army rifle team.

	Order.
Oscar A. Iverson, first sergeant, Company D, Eighteenth Infantry.....	11
Frank Dapkus, sergeant, Troop L, Eighth Cavalry.....	12

Army pistol team.

Jack Mathews, quartermaster sergeant, Troop E, Eighth Cavalry.....	3
Frank J. Warpecha, corporal, Troop A, Sixth Cavalry.....	9
Robert W. Elder, sergeant, Troop B, Thirteenth Cavalry.....	12

Officers in this department winning prizes in these competitions are as follows:

Northern rifle competition.

	Order.
William S. Weeks, second lieutenant, Fourth Infantry.....	4
Charles W. Farber, captain, Eighth Cavalry.....	6
Robert R. Raymond, captain, Corps of Engineers.....	7
William A. Alfonte, first lieutenant, Eighteenth Infantry.....	10
Clarence H. Farnham, first lieutenant, Fourth Infantry.....	10
Frank T. McNarney, first lieutenant, Sixth Cavalry.....	15
James A. Mars, second lieutenant, Second Cavalry.....	16

Northern pistol competition.

George R. Allin, first lieutenant, Sixth Field Artillery.....	4
Kenyon A. Joyce, second lieutenant, Sixth Cavalry.....	6
William A. Alfonte, first lieutenant, Eighteenth Infantry.....	6
Robert R. Raymond, captain, Corps of Engineers.....	8
David C. Shanks, major, Fourth Infantry.....	9

Army rifle competition.

	Order.
Clarence H. Faruham, first lieutenant, Fourth Infantry.....	1
William S. Weeks, second lieutenant, Fourth Infantry.....	2

Army pistol competition.

James A. Cole, captain, Sixth Cavalry, D. P. S.....	1
David C. Shanks, major, Fourth Infantry.....	12

A report from the commanding officer, Company C, Thirteenth Infantry, Fort Leavenworth, Kans., pointing out defects in the new army rifle was recently received at these headquarters. Many of the defects mentioned were of a minor nature, yet they are considered to be of sufficient importance to merit the attention of higher authority. This report was forwarded to The Adjutant-General, U. S. Army, June 4, 1908.

Reports of target firing under winter conditions required by paragraph 7 (f), General Orders, No. 177, War Department, series of 1907, held between January 1 and March 1, 1908, have been received at these headquarters and the results are reported to be generally good. The commanding officer, Fort Crook, Nebr., however, states that in his opinion "target practice (in winter) adds but little, if anything, to a soldier's proficiency in rifle practice, and its only value seems to be to show him that he is heavily handicapped in correct shooting by wearing his overcoat and blanket roll accouterments."

The commanding officer at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., states that in his opinion "the course is of very little benefit and seems a waste of ammunition."

Considering the fact that preliminary practice is held for a month previous to the opening of the regular practice season, and supplementary practice is held for a month after its close, it is a matter of doubt whether an additional winter course might not have the effect of becoming irksome to the troops and thus cause them to lose interest.

Reports from officers in this department designated to test the sub-target gun machine, and the device known as the Hollifield recording target practice rifle rod, are not expected to reach these headquarters until after the close of the regular season, when a special report will be made from this office as directed by the War Department.

A report on defective ammunition, from Maj. Hunter Liggett, Thirteenth Infantry, Fort Leavenworth, Kans., was recently received at these headquarters, and forwarded to The Adjutant-General of the Army June 22, 1908.

On September 27, 1907, an elaborate report was prepared in this office relative to the season's work in target practice, based on special reports from post commanders, which included observations and opinions on the rifle and ammunition, targets and target material, the target range, the conduct of preliminary drills, gallery practice, and range practice. This report was forwarded to the War Department October 7, 1907, for the consideration of superior authority.

The increased importance of uniformity and strict adherence to prescribed rules in conducting, recording, and reporting results of target practice warrant and, it is believed, demand for the duties of department inspector of small arms practice an officer of field rank

of demonstrated special fitness for such duty, not only to handle the paper business of the office but to inspect the ranges and visit all of them during the process of actual practice.

TARGET RANGES.

The following-named posts in the department are supplied with suitable ranges in the vicinity of the posts where proper instruction in small-arms firing may be imparted without danger to the lives and property of the surrounding inhabitants, viz: Fort Robinson, Fort Meade, Fort Washakie, Fort Mackenzie, Fort Riley.

Fort Des Moines.—Temporary lease of some lands back of the range at this post rendered it possible to hold practice this year on the local range, although the local authorities seemed not entirely free from apprehension of danger to the surrounding inhabitants. In the allotment of funds for the fiscal year 1909, the sum of \$35,850 is set aside for the purchase of 358½ acres of land which, it is hoped, will render target practice on the Fort Des Moines range entirely safe.

Fort Crook.—The garrison of this post was sent to Watertown, S. Dak., in June and July, 1908, for target practice, which was had on the state range of South Dakota through the courtesy of the governor of that State. The "protected range" at Fort Crook is not suitable for ranges beyond 300 yards, and even for the short ranges it is believed that it is not wholly free from danger to the surrounding inhabitants. Land in the immediate vicinity of Fort Crook is held at such a price as to appear prohibitory in contemplating the purchase of land for a range. It is thought, however, that land may be purchased in the Missouri River valley so situated that a rifle range may be laid out on it in the direction of the river and of the waste lands on its bank, so that the cost of a range would be comparatively small. The futility of purchasing small tracts of land for target ranges has become more and more apparent with the increasing range of the rifle. Litigation over damages to property and injunctions from civil courts are not only annoying but may defeat the purpose for which a range is purchased unless the land purchased is of sufficient extent to preclude possibility of danger. A board of officers is engaged in selecting a suitable tract for a rifle range for Fort Crook. Its report and recommendation will be made the subject-matter of a separate communication at a later period.

Fort Leavenworth.—The work on the bullet stop at this post is still in progress and will be completed in the near future. The local military authorities do not believe, however, that it will, when completed, furnish protection to the surrounding inhabitants. Complaints were made before the opening of this year's target practice that the practice would endanger lives and property back of the butts, and it had been virtually decided to send the garrison to Fort Riley for target practice, but local influences prevailed and by lease of grounds back of the butts in the danger zone complaints were withdrawn and practice was had on the home range. No report of complaints this year has reached this office.

In the interest of security, however, it is recommended that all land within the danger zone back of the Fort Leavenworth range be purchased by the Government for maneuver and target practice pur-

poses: so much has already been expended on this range that the additional sum required to secure to the Government the uninterrupted use of the range would be insignificant as compared with the amount already expended, and expended to no purpose if the instruction of the troops is to be interrupted by vexatious delays due to complaints or by perpetual injunctions. Recommendations as to the land that should be purchased to insure security about this range will be made in the near future.

Fort D. A. Russell.—Under the act of Congress authorizing the exchange of lands for the enlargement of maneuver grounds within the reservation known as the Crow Creek National Forest Reserve, approved March 13, 1908, it is recommended that early action be taken by the War Department looking to the extinction of the title of all private holders within the limits of the reservation near Fort D. A. Russell. When title to all the land within the reservation limits is acquired by the Government the facilities for target practice by the infantry, cavalry, and field artillery of Fort D. A. Russell will be of the best.

INSPECTION OF POSTS.

The annual inspections of the military posts required by paragraph 191, Army Regulations, were deferred till the spring months owing to the return during the past summer, autumn, and winter of so many regiments in the department from the Philippines Division, the discharge of nearly all their old men, the depleted condition in men and mounts, and to enable the department commander by actual personal observation to secure data to make at the end of the year the relative efficiency reports of organizations required by General Orders, No. 232, War Department, December 15, 1907. But telegraphic instructions from the War Department, dated January 21, 1908, directed that owing to the shortage of the appropriation for mileage expenses no inspections of posts would be made by the department commander until after the end of the fiscal year that involved a draft upon that fund. This prevented any such inspection before the rendering of this report.

The thorough inspections of all buildings at each post by the post commanders on March 1 and the detailed estimates based thereon for repairs anticipated fully all the wants in that line that the department commander could detect at inspections.

Fort D. A. Russell.—Advantage was taken by the department commander of a visit to the Fort D. A. Russell maneuver and target reservation for the purpose of looking over the grounds and locating camp sites for the maneuvers in August, to make an annual inspection of that post on June 17. The garrison consisted of headquarters, band, and Batteries C, E, and F, Second Field Artillery; Third Battalion, Eleventh Infantry; detachment of the Hospital Corps.

The enlisted men of the artillery were almost wholly recruits, but indicated painstaking instruction, and the mules but recently purchased, 65 arriving the day of the inspection, while of superior and of ideal standard, necessarily demonstrated a lack of sufficient training. The guns and equipments of all kinds and clothing were new and presented an excellent appearance.

The infantry displayed excellence in arms, equipments, clothing, and movements.

The hospital corps bore every appearance of a high order of efficiency. The hospital is old and out of date. As a new one is in course of erection further comment is unnecessary.

The department commander assured himself by personal examination and observation that the officers and men were efficient in the performance of duty; that the troops were thoroughly drilled and instructed in their field duties and tactical exercises (with the exceptions stated); that supplies were properly distributed; that proper care was being exercised in the purchase and preservation of public property; and that strict economy was being observed in all public expenditures.

RELATIVE EFFICIENCY OF ORGANIZATIONS.

From the list of gains in the department during the year it will be seen that most of the organizations joined from the Philippines Division. They have since lost nearly all their old men and none of them have had their ranks filled with new. Cavalry organizations with the most men are short of mounts, and what mounts they have are new, untrained, and unseasoned. Organizations with the most mounts are short of men, and what they have are largely untrained and unseasoned recruits. Comparisons of the relative efficiency of organizations now would not be fair for most regiments and an exact one in all probability would not be true in a few weeks or months. Comparisons without careful personal observations and checks on the part of the department commander, which have been impossible, and based only upon the scanty information furnished by the reports, can be neither correct nor just. Assiduous instruction is in progress at every post and comparisons at the close of another fiscal year will be based on more equitable and accurate data that will admit of a more intelligent, accurate, and just report than that submitted.

The possibilities of making the comparisons of regiments more exact and otherwise benefiting and concentrating closer the Sixteenth and Nineteenth Regiments of Infantry would be the transfer of the battalion of the Sixteenth, now at Fort Logan H. Roots, Ark., to this department, and the battalion of the Nineteenth Infantry, now at Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., to the Department of Texas. This exchange would place the whole of each regiment within one department while now both have a part in two.

OFFICERS ABSENT.

The great number of officers absent from their organizations is an evil that demands a remedy. It doubles and sometimes triples the duties of the officers present for duty, necessitates frequent shifting of officers from one organization to another, always harmful to the men and of no good and sometimes a hardship to the officers, and to the detriment of discipline and efficiency. It embarrasses commanding officers in the proper assignment of officers and in making details for special work, and has perplexed the department commander in the proper constitution of courts, involving increased expenses. It also deprives many faithful and deserving officers from leaves of absence. This lack of officers has been felt in this depart-

ment particularly, owing to most of the regiments having been practically remanned during the year with raw recruits.

Shortage of officers is materially felt in conducting target practice properly, the increased pay allowed for certain qualifications necessitating close supervision of each organization by a full quota of officers.

Legislation is recommended authorizing the filling by promotion or appointment of any vacancy in an organization caused by detachment of any officer therefrom to fill details specially authorized by law.

GARRISON AND FIELD TRAINING REPORTS.

The report required under paragraph 6, General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, and that called for by letter (1395839) from The Adjutant-General's Office, dated June 27, 1908, with respect to the "advisability of decreasing the number of articles prescribed by the general order in question, to be carried in the pack by infantry regiments," the department commander does not feel warranted to make at this time, as he has not yet had the opportunity to inspect the troops of his command. As soon as the annual inspections shall have been made this matter will be the subject of special recommendations.

TEST RIDES.

On assuming command, October 9, 1907, the department commander found that the physical examinations and test rides of field officers of the department required by General Orders of the War Department, Nos. 181 and 198, series 1907, to be made under the immediate supervision of the department commander before November 1, 1907, had been made for no officers but those serving at Fort Riley. The field officers were assembled in the most economical way, under the conditions, at different posts in the department, and given the physical examinations and tests. Of the 47 officers who took the riding test under my supervision, all but one did so perfectly satisfactorily, and that one demonstrated that he could have done so with a little practice. The same officer and one other did not pass a satisfactory physical examination immediately after the ride, and both were subsequently ordered to appear before a retiring board at Washington, D. C.

FORT WASHAKIE, WYO.

By direction of the War Department, Fort Washakie, Wyo., was reestablished by General Orders, No. 125, Department of the Missouri, October 14, 1907, and garrisoned by Troop M, Eighth Cavalry. That troop had been encamped there since June 6, 1907, having been sent there from Fort Robinson.

This post is considered by the chief surgeon to be so insanitary as to be unfit for troops in its present condition. It is considered very desirable that a definite conclusion should be reached as to whether this post is to be permanently reoccupied or not. If it is to be so reoccupied, it should be rebuilt; if not, it should be abandoned as soon as practicable.

ICE PLANT AT FORT RILEY, KANS.

The supply of ice for Fort Riley has been wholly dependent upon a single plant at Junction City. The lowest bid for the last contract for that post for ice delivered was 40 cents per hundredweight, and for the maneuver camp 45 cents. Contracts were let for both Forts Des Moines and Leavenworth to firms in the adjacent cities at 17½ cents per hundred, not delivered. When the great quantity of ice consumed at Fort Riley is considered the economy of a public ice plant is apparent, and the recommendation made that one be installed at that post is renewed.

TORNADO AT FORT CROOK.

A destructive tornado struck Fort Crook, Nebr., on the afternoon of May 12, 1908, carried away the roof of the hospital and damaged the roofs of nearly all the buildings in the post, destroyed several small buildings, many porches, all fences, and many of the trees and much shrubbery.

The facts were reported the next day by telegraph to the War Department, and within forty-eight hours official information was received that Congress had appropriated \$100,000 for restoration and repairs. Estimates for material were made at once and repairs commenced and have continued since. Unfortunately the weather has been rainy continuously ever since and has done much additional damage to the buildings, owing to the leaky and open roofs. The repairs are proceeding satisfactorily, and it is believed the money appropriated will prove ample.

MACHINE-GUN PLATOONS.

Composite organizations are always unsatisfactory; they have none of the advantages of permanency; lack cohesion within and are interfered with from without. The machine-gun platoons experience these manifold difficulties, and their commanders have made many complaints. They should have a permanent organization to attain the highest efficiency, and as they are of such great importance to the service it is believed they should have a company organization, closely upon the lines of a troop of cavalry, with three guns, that one would be available for each squadron or battalion in the event of these organizations being detached or operating separately. That squadrons and battalions may remain uniform in organization, as now, legislation is suggested to give every regiment of cavalry and infantry an additional troop or company equipped with machine guns.

AGE OF RECRUITS.

It is believed that an increase in the minimum age of recruits would be of material benefit to the service. The department commander has been forcibly impressed with the extremely youthful and boyish appearance of the men in ranks, and more particularly so with the prisoners in the guardhouses. A very large percentage of them are undeveloped in body and mind. Night guard and other

duties are onerous to them and practice marches tedious hardships. Unsettled in habits, they become discontented, homesick, discouraged, and desert. "Young men for war" has its limitations in application.

Our service has shown that middle-aged men have more endurance, are settled in habits, harbor their strength, are of better judgment, and know how and do take better care of themselves—all of which enhances their efficiency.

MOVEMENTS AND OPERATIONS OF TROOPS.

Under General Orders, No. 62, series 1907, Department of the Missouri, furnished the War Department, the First and Second Squadrons and Machine-Gun Platoon, Second Cavalry, from Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and Battery C, Fifth Field Artillery, Company A, Signal Corps, and the Machine-Gun Platoon, Eighteenth Infantry, from Fort Leavenworth, Kans.; participated in the annual encampment and maneuvers of the Iowa National Guard near Des Moines, Iowa, from August 5 to 12, 1907. Report of the maneuvers was rendered by Maj. J. A. Olmsted, U. S. Army, retired.

Under General Orders, No. 77, series 1907, Department of the Missouri, furnished the War Department, the headquarters and Companies I, L, and M, Third Battalion of Engineers, Company A, Signal Corps, Batteries A and B, Fifth Field Artillery, and the Machine-Gun Platoon, Eighteenth Infantry, from Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and all the troops at Fort Riley, Kans., participated in an attack upon a redoubt at Fort Riley, designed to be defended by a battalion of infantry. Report was furnished the War Department by the commanding general, Fort Riley, Kans.

Under General Orders, No. 92, series 1907, Department of the Missouri, furnished the War Department, the Second Cavalry, from Fort Des Moines; Troop L, Seventh Cavalry, from Fort Riley; Machine-Gun Platoon, Eighth Cavalry, from Fort Robinson; Battery A, Sixth Field Artillery, from Fort Riley; headquarters and First and Second Battalions, Eighteenth Infantry, from Fort Leavenworth, participated in a military tournament at the annual stock show at St. Joseph, Mo., September 23 to 28, 1907, when it appears that the troops acquitted themselves in the usual creditable manner, both commissioned and enlisted, to their benefit, the pleasure of the vast throngs of people, and the great satisfaction of the management, and the latter's earnest desire for a similar tournament next September on a much larger scale. The report of Col. Frank West, Second Cavalry, who commanded the troops at the tournament, is submitted separately. I consider the participation of all arms of the service in these and similar public affairs of great benefit to the troops and people. It is a healthy change in the monotonous treadmill life of the soldier, however varied his military duties may be; he prepares himself for the occasion, is on his good behavior, and does his best; and it adds to his pride of profession. The great bulk of our people rarely see a regular soldier, and the very best informed have but vague notions of what our soldiers do and are, much less the great changes and progress in the art of war and the proficiency our army has attained. They throng to these places in vast numbers and are

invariably surprised, amused, interested, and educated, and leave most favorably impressed. It is better for the army and the people that the army should be better known and understood by the people.

INDIAN TROUBLES.

The Ute Indians, who left their allotted lands on the Uintah Reservation, Utah, the summer of 1906, and were taken by the troops, as reported last year, to Fort Meade, S. Dak., November 26, 1906, and held there until June 10, 1907, when they were sent thence to the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, were placed under the custody of the Indian agent of that reservation July 2, 1907. They were located later near Thunder Butte Creek and Moreau River. These Indians became discontented, restless, and turbulent. On October 24, 1907, the commanding officer of Fort Meade forwarded to these headquarters a telegram from the Indian agent, Thomas Downs, requesting that three troops of cavalry be sent him at once to subdue the Utes. The department commander was absent at the time at Fort Leavenworth, but the adjutant-general of the department took action at once and ordered that a squadron of the Second Cavalry at Fort Des Moines be held in readiness to proceed to the scene of trouble by rail, via Gettysburg, S. Dak., and troops at Forts Meade and Robinson were placed in readiness for immediate active operations. By a later order the Second Squadron of the Second Cavalry left Fort Des Moines under Maj. F. W. Sibley, Second Cavalry, 6.30 p. m., October 25, and arrived at Gettysburg the 27th and proceeded to the agency. Telegraphic instructions of the War Department of November 2 required that the First and Third Squadrons of the Second Cavalry at Fort Des Moines should also be sent at once to the scene of trouble. Company K, Sixteenth Infantry, was sent from Fort Crook to garrison Fort Des Moines during the absence of the Second Cavalry, where it arrived November 30, and two companies, I and M, Sixteenth Infantry, were sent from Fort Crook to Gettysburg to guard supplies; Company M subsequently being sent to camp on the west bank of the Missouri, near the Cheyenne Indian Agency. Col. Frank West, Second Cavalry, in command of the First and Third Squadrons of his regiment, left Des Moines by rail on the afternoon of November 3 and reported his arrival at Gettysburg on the 5th. He proceeded at once on the road to Thunder Butte Creek.

No transportation could be hired and no forage purchased at first, so that considerable annoyance was experienced in supplying the expedition; but it was accomplished without suffering on the part of men or animals. Crossing supplies over the Missouri River was a perplexing annoyance. All steam crafts on the river were tied up for the winter, and the river would not freeze over so that crossing could be made on the ice, and yet it was constantly running with floating ice that made the crossing by the ferry dangerous and at times impossible. A complete detailed report of the expedition is rendered separately, necessitating but brief mention here of the main features. The cavalry went to Thunder Butte, and by the mere display of force and exercise of tact and good judgment of the officers and influence of Capt. Carter P. Johnson, Second Cavalry, who had been with the Indians much of the time for a year, the latter were

brought under subjection without bloodshed. The Second Squadron of the Second Cavalry was returned to its station, reaching Fort Des Moines December 13, the First Squadron reached Fort Des Moines on December 20, and the Third Squadron, excepting Troop L, on December 21. Company K, Sixteenth Infantry, was relieved from garrison duty at Fort Des Moines and joined Fort Crook December 14. Companies I and M, Sixteenth Infantry, were relieved from the expedition and joined Fort Crook on December 20 and December 18, respectively. Troop L, Second Cavalry, remained in camp at Thunder Butte, and was breaking camp to return to Fort Des Moines on the date of this report. The Ute Indians, under charge of Capt. C. P. Johnson, Second Cavalry, and an escort of ten enlisted men, Troop L, Second Cavalry, accompanied by Contract Surg. Waller H. Dade, and one man of the Hospital Corps, departed with army transportation from Camp Thunder Butte on June 30 for the Uintah Indian Reservation, Utah. The department commander was very much gratified with the promptness, alacrity, high order of intelligence, and initiative displayed almost without exception by all the officers on the expedition, from start to finish. It was an excellent practical demonstration of the high order of efficiency of the troops that took part in the expedition.

OFFICERS' CLAIMS.

The disbursing officers of the army are held to so close an accountability for the technical correctness of their disbursements that they become timid. Claims presented with which they are not perfectly familiar, sometimes when they know them to be fair, just, and correct, are rejected in whole or in part. This sometimes results from lack of experience and of efficiency, but is due in part to the fact that auditors and comptrollers are not infallible, vary in their decisions, are sometimes inconsistent in rulings, and reverse the rulings of their predecessors. Some in practice do not accept and enforce the rulings even of the Supreme Court of the United States. The officer may be wholly dependent upon the payment of his voucher to meet and defray his current living expenses; he must, perforce, accept what he can get. After being rebuffed by the Pay Department, his perfectly proper and just claim is also disallowed by the Auditor and Comptroller. His only recourse is a lawsuit before the Court of Claims at heavy expense and much annoyance to manage at a great distance while he is performing his public duty. Having received the judgment of that court as to the perfect propriety, correctness, justice, and lawfulness of the claim, it is then appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States, with further delay, annoyance, and expense to the officer. After the Supreme Court has not only affirmed the decision of the Court of Claims and extended the rulings upon the laws bearing upon the points at issue, but even expressing its surprise that the questions at issue could ever have arisen when the law was so clear and plain, still, nevertheless, after adjusting some cases, the officers of the Treasury reject all other similar claims as too much annoyance or work, or as involving too much money. The arrearages in such cases have been little short of robbery of officers, and the larger the amount the greater the hardship and injustice. If the Treasury Department can not be induced to settle the correct and

lawful claims of officers, particularly in the short payment of their salaries, on lines decided to be lawful by the Supreme Court, it is recommended that legislation be asked for that will exact imbursement to all officers of the army the amounts it may be established by reexamination of their accounts that such officers have been short paid by disbursing officers through erroneous interpretation of the laws, as shown by subsequent decision and interpretations of the laws involved by the Supreme Court of the United States.

EQUITABLE PROMOTIONS.

By an act of Congress approved March 2, 1907, officers who served creditably in the regular or volunteer forces during the civil war prior to April 9, 1865, and who now hold the rank of brigadier-general on the active list of the army, having previously held that rank for three years or more, shall, when retired, have the rank and retired pay of major-general. This act was to the benefit of but four officers, all of the staff departments, varying in civil war service from two years and two days to nine months and twenty-eight days. As this legislation was based upon claims for civil war service it is suggested that the benefits of this legislation be extended to all brigadier-generals of the line of the army now in active service who served creditably over three years in the regular or volunteer forces during the civil war prior to April 9, 1865. Some of the general officers whom this legislation would affect have also served in Indian campaigns, in the Santiago campaign, and participated in the hostilities in the Philippines. As officers have no discretion where they shall serve, but must serve on whatever duty they are ordered, the law might properly omit any or all war service except the three years in the civil war.

DETAILS FROM LINE INTO STAFF DEPARTMENTS.

Some heads of the staff corps and departments look with disfavor upon the present system of detailing officers of the line for tours of duty in their departments, on the grounds that each new officer is more or less inexperienced in his new duties, has to be taught them, and in the meantime the efficiency of their department suffers, and therefore the system is a failure. The whole object of the system, which has not yet been given a thorough trial, is that in time of peace as many of the officers of the army as possible may be instructed on as many lines as possible, to supply the great demands in war for additional officers in the staff departments. The complaints offered seem to be arguments for a continuation of the present system. The whole army is a school of instruction for war, without cessation or intermission, and the heads of the staff departments ought to cheerfully assist in their part of the instruction. When an officer is found impossible for a particular line of work, a little moral courage would obtain his relief. The two grades next below the heads of departments might with advantage be filled by permanent details. Experience has shown that a wholly independent department works first in the interest of the department alone rather than that of the general good of the service, and in time loses touch, sympathy, and interest,

and consequently loses knowledge of the needs and wants of the service. The detail system introduces new blood, unites all branches, and results in developing what would otherwise remain latent talent, and affords a broader field for choice when selections become necessary.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. MORTON,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Department.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,
St. Paul, Minn., August 1, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith annual report for the year ending June 30, 1908.

I assumed command of the department May 6, 1908. During the period of the year prior to the date of my assuming command the department was commanded by Maj. Gen. William S. McCaskey, July 1 to August 5, 1907; Col. Joseph W. Duncan, Sixth Infantry, August 6 to 11, 1907; Lieut. Col. William A. Mann, Sixth Infantry, August 12 to 19, 1907; Lieut. Col. Charles A. Varnum, Fourth Cavalry, August 20 to September 12, 1907; Lieut. Col. William A. Mann, Sixth Infantry, September 13 to 15, 1907; Maj. Gen. William S. McCaskey, September 15 to October 2, 1907; Lieut. Col. William A. Mann, Sixth Infantry, October 3 to December 10, 1907; Maj. Gen. A. W. Greely, December 11 to 24, 1907; Lieut. Col. William A. Mann, Sixth Infantry, December 24, 1907, to February 17, 1908; Maj. John H. Beacom, Sixth Infantry, February 17 to 21, 1908, and Lieut. Col. William A. Mann, Sixth Infantry, February 21 to May 6, 1908.

Pursuant to the requirements of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, a progressive scheme covering the practical training of the troops in this department was submitted by each command and has been adhered to, except that at some posts the troops were excused from making the prescribed monthly practice march on account of being engaged in target practice. The system of progressive instruction seems to have worked satisfactorily, and with good results.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

The officers in charge during the year were Lieut. Col. James Rockwell, jr., Ordnance Department, July 1 to 24 and July 26 to August 9, 1907, and Lieut. Col. Alexander O. Brodie, Adjutant-General's Department, July 24, 1907, to June 30, 1908, except while on leave July 26 to August 9, 1907.

First Lieut. Archibald F. Commiskey, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp, was assigned as assistant to the adjutant-general May 14, 1908.

The clerical force consists of six civilian clerks, one of whom, in addition to his duties in the adjutant-general's office, performs the clerical work of the offices of the inspector of small-arms practice and the chief ordnance officer. The messenger service is performed by three civilians. The card record system is in operation. This office is conducted in a thoroughly efficient manner.

The troops now serving in this department are: Second Squadron, Eighth Cavalry; Second Squadron, Fourth Cavalry; headquarters, band, and First, Second, and Third Battalions, and Machine-Gun Platoon, Sixth Infantry; Third Battalion, Twenty-eighth Infantry; Third Battalion, Second Infantry; Battery C, Third Field Artillery.

The loss of enlisted men in this department during the year has been: By sentence of general court martial, 77; by desertion, 50.

Officers absent from the department on June 30, 1908:

Organization.	Leave.	Detached service.	Sick.	Total.
Staff.....	2	2		4
Cavalry.....	1	6	1	8
Field Artillery.....	1			1
Infantry.....	6	19	1	26
Aggregate.....	10	27	2	39

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The following-named officers have been on duty in this department as inspector-general during the year: Lieut. Col. F. H. French, inspector-general from July 1, 1907, to February 28, 1908; Maj. H. C. Cabell, General Staff, chief of staff, in charge of office from February 29, 1908, to June 8, 1908; Maj. S. W. Miller, inspector-general from June 8 to 30, 1908.

INSPECTIONS.

The required inspections within the department and inspections of recruiting offices and accounts of disbursing officers not under control of the department commander were all made, except the post of Fort Snelling, Minn., and the third periodical inspection of the money accounts of Maj. Graham D. Fitch, Corps of Engineers, Duluth, Minn., due to inhibition from superior authority on account of mileage.

There were six special investigations made during the year.

All of the above inspections were made by Lieutenant-Colonel French, except the third periodical inspection of money accounts of disbursing officers stationed in St. Paul, which was made by Major Miller, who also visited Fort Keogh, Mont., recently ordered abandoned, for the purpose of inspecting public property.

Following is a summary of public property inspected during the year:

	Articles.	Value.
Number continued in service.....	4,357	\$5,903.38
Number destroyed.....	179,270	17,679.27
Number sold.....	96,961	87,654.98
Number turned in to depot.....	987	5,708.17
Total.....	281,575	\$7,071.81

Following is a summary of money accounts inspected:

Number, 47, involving.....	\$4,337. 032. 65
Closing accounts, 17, involving.....	267, 896. 03
Total, 64, involving.....	4, 604, 928. 68

INSTRUCTION AND DISCIPLINE.

The reports on file in the inspector-general's office show that the command is well instructed and the discipline good.

READINESS FOR FIELD SERVICE, ETC.

The troops at the various posts within the command were reported prepared for any duty they may be called upon to perform.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Maj. Frank L. Dodds, judge-advocate, U. S. Army, has been in charge of the judge-advocate's office at these headquarters during the year.

GENERAL COURTS-MARTIAL.

There were no trials of officers in the department during the year.

The following table is compiled from the trials by general courts-martial which have been completed and published during the year covered by this report, and shows the place of trial, the number of trials, the number of acquittals, the number of different men tried, and the number of cases disapproved:

Place of trial.	Number of trials.	Acquittals.	Different men tried.	Disapproved.
Fort Lincoln, N. Dak.....	7		7	
Fort Missoula, Mont.....	17	1	17	
Fort Snelling, Minn.....	83	6	82	
Fort William Henry Harrison, Mont.....	29	2	27	1
Fort Yellowstone, Wyo.....	2		2	
Total.....	138	9	135	1

The following shows, approximately, the number of convictions of different offenses by general courts-martial during the year:

Seventeenth article of war.....	17
Twenty-first article of war: Disobeying superior officer.....	3
Thirty-second article of war: Absence without leave.....	32
Thirty-third article of war: Failure to attend drill, roll call, etc.....	6
Thirty-eighth article of war: Drunkenness on duty.....	10
Thirty-ninth article of war: Quitting post.....	4
Fortieth article of war: Quitting guard.....	3
Forty-seventh article of war: Desertion.....	50
Sixty-second article of war.....	81

SENTENCE OF ENLISTED MEN.

About 56 per cent of the enlisted men convicted by general courts-martial received sentences involving dishonorable discharge, and about 3 per cent of these sentences were awarded in view of previous convictions.

INFERIOR COURTS-MARTIAL.

The following shows the number of trials of enlisted men by these courts during the year, the number of acquittals, the number of different men tried, and the number of cases disapproved:

Garrison courts:	
Trials	12
Acquittals	3
Men tried	12
Summary courts:	
Trials	1, 272
Acquittals	35
Men tried	779
Disapproved	7

The following shows, approximately, the number of convictions of different offenses by garrison courts-martial during the year:

Thirty-second article of war: Absence without leave	2
Thirty-third article of war: Failure to attend drill, roll call, etc.	2
Sixty-second article of war	14

The following shows, approximately, the number of convictions of different offenses by summary courts during the year:

Seventeenth article of war	37
Thirty-second article of war	476
Thirty-third article of war	446
Thirty-eighth article of war	60
Fortieth article of war	1
Sixty-second article of war	1, 074

Concerning the percentage of the average enlisted strength that have been tried by general, garrison, and summary courts, a comparison with the figures of last year discloses for the present year no material change in the general cases, a decrease of about 3 per cent in the garrison cases, and a decrease of about 36 per cent in the summary cases.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

PERSONNEL.

The duties of chief quartermaster were performed by Lieut. Col. J. E. Sawyer, deputy quartermaster-general, U. S. Army, from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908, under paragraph 11, Special Order 271, War Department, 1905, and General Order 26, headquarters Department of Dakota, 1905.

FINANCIAL.

The following is a statement of the receipt and disbursement of public funds pertaining to this department during the fiscal year:

FISCAL YEAR 1906.

Appropriation.	Received.	Disbursed.	Balance on hand June 30, 1908.
Regular supplies	\$1. 63	\$1. 63	.....
Army transportation	11, 354. 65	11, 354. 65	.....
Total	11, 356. 28	11, 356. 28	.....

FISCAL YEAR 1907

Appropriation.	Received.	Disbursed.	Balance on hand June 30, 1908.
E. O. S. M. P.	\$156. 33	\$156. 33	.....
Regular supplies	21, 812. 67	21, 812. 67	.....
Incidental expenses	10, 376. 61	10, 243. 33	\$133. 28
Barracks and quarters	39, 995. 62	39, 995. 62	.....
Army transportation	168, 070. 32	167, 565. 14	506. 18
Clothing and equipage	1, 207. 50	1, 207. 60	.....
Hospitals	831. 57	831. 57	.....
Bringing home the remains of officers and soldiers who died abroad	400. 00	400. 00	.....
Military post exchanges	1, 069. 23	1, 069. 23	.....
Shooting galleries and ranges	12, 360. 28	12, 360. 28	.....
Horses for cavalry, artillery, and engineers	21. 60	21. 60	.....
Total	256, 301. 73	256, 663. 27	638. 46

FISCAL YEAR 1908.

Appropriation.	Received.	Disbursed.	Balance on hand June 30, 1908.
Miscellaneous receipts	\$238. 95	\$238. 95	.....
E. O. S. M. P.	9. 85	9. 85	.....
Regular supplies	235, 106. 10	224, 549. 09	\$10, 557. 01
Incidental expenses	57, 473. 69	57, 088. 31	385. 38
Barracks and quarters	72, 368. 68	71, 496. 71	871. 97
Army transportation	204, 834. 88	200, 565. 04	4, 269. 84
Clothing and equipage	3, 634. 56	3, 557. 06	77. 60
Hospitals	4, 948. 78	4, 948. 43	. 35
Hospital steward's quarters	162. 75	162. 75	.....
Military post exchanges	2, 178. 96	2, 120. 86	58. 10
Shooting galleries and ranges	4, 609. 75	4, 399. 77	209. 98
Horses for cavalry, artillery, and engineers	22, 366. 80	22, 355. 51	11. 29
Total	607, 933. 75	591, 492. 33	16, 441. 42

NO YEAR.

Appropriation.	Received.	Disbursed.	Balance on hand June 30, 1908.
Relief of sufferers from earthquake and conflagration on the Pacific coast	\$15, 034. 48	\$15, 034. 48	.....

Record of transportation of troops and their equipment for the fiscal year 1908.

Date.	Organization.	Transportation from—	Passengers.				
			Officers.		Men.		Total cost.
			No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	
1907. Aug. 21	Troop K, Second Cavalry.	Fort Snelling to Fort Des Moines.			43	\$5.03	\$216.29
Sept. 2	Third Squadron, staff, Troops I and K, Sixth Cavalry.	Fort Yellowstone to Portland, Oreg.	1	\$14.21	118	14.21	1,690.99
Do..	Troops L and M, Sixth Cavalry.	Fort Keogh to Portland, Oreg.	5	16.625	116	16.625	2,011.62

Date.	Organization.	Transportation from—	Live stock.				Stores in excess of free allowance.		
			No. of horses.	No. of cars.	Rate.	Total cost.	Total weight.	Rate.	Total cost.
1907. Aug. 21	Troop K, Second Cavalry.	Fort Snelling to Fort Des Moines.	47	3	\$83.23	\$249.69			
Sept. 2	Third Squadron, staff, Troops I and K, Sixth Cavalry.	Fort Yellowstone to Portland, Oreg.					11,065 20,000	\$1.2585 .4563	\$138.79 91.26
							15,545 495	2.63 2.24	408.83 11.09
							230 564	1.84 1.56	4.23 8.91
Do..	Troops L and M, Sixth Cavalry.	Fort Keogh to Portland, Oreg.					6,538 292	3.945 5.26	257.64 15.36
									706.26
									Net, 358.13

SUMMARY.

Troop K, Second Cavalry:		
Passengers.....	\$216.29	
Live stock	249.69	
		\$465.98
Third Squadron, staff, and Troops I and K, Sixth Cavalry:		
Passengers.....	1,690.99	
Stores in excess of free allowance.....	138.70	
		1,829.69
Troops I and K, Sixth Cavalry: Stores in excess of free allowance.....		91.26
Troops L and M, Sixth Cavalry:		
Passengers.....	2,011.62	
Stores in excess of free allowance (\$706.26) net	358.13	
		2,369.75
		4,751.69

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The following officers have been on duty as chief commissary of the department during the fiscal year, viz: Col. J. N. Allison, assistant commissary-general, from July 1 to 15, 1907; Capt. Ralph Harrison, commissary, from July 16, 1907, to March 13, 1908; Capt. Douglas Settle, commissary, from March 13 to June 30, 1908.

With the exception of issue bacon and canned meats supplied from Chicago, and fresh meat, fresh vegetables, butter, and in some cases flour procured in the vicinity of posts, the stores supplied the troops in the department were purchased in this market at prices comparing favorably with those of other purchasing points in the country.

The average cost per pound of fresh beef was 7.29 cents; of potatoes 1.25 cents, and of onions 2.09 cents, as against 7.26, 0.89, and 2.13 cents per pound, respectively, for the previous year.

The new ration as authorized in General Orders, No. 47, War Department, April 3, 1908, has been supplied the troops since May 1, at an average cost of 19.86 cents per ration, as compared with 16.67 cents for the old ration furnished during the preceding nine months of the fiscal year. The post commissaries without exception report that the recent additions to and changes in the ration have materially improved the troops' messes, and that with a few minor exceptions the stores supplied them have been satisfactory in every respect.

The loss by condemnation of subsistence stores for the department was \$744.67; of which amount, \$435.05 was for fresh vegetables destroyed at Fort Assiniboine, Mont., because of the sudden withdrawal of the garrison therefrom and inability to transfer them elsewhere or to dispose of them by sale at the post.

The loss by expenditure and condemnation of subsistence property amounted to \$333.35. The total loss of stores and property was less than three-fourths of 1 per cent of the total valuation of those handled during the year.

Subsistence funds were received and disbursed as follows:

RECEIVED.

Balance brought forward.....	\$9, 773. 02
From Treasury of United States.....	118, 000. 00
From paymasters.....	87. 90
From reclamations.....	14. 90
From commissaries.....	17. 20
	<hr/> \$127, 883. 02

DISBURSED.

Purchase of subsistence stores.....	\$58, 802. 32
Purchase of subsistence property.....	913. 90
Transferred to commissaries.....	52, 476. 56
Placed to credit of United States Treasury.....	9, 410. 87
Commutation of rations.....	481. 50
Printing.....	54. 00
Pay civilian employees.....	4, 803. 67
Rent of telephone.....	57. 00
Miscellaneous.....	36. 32
Balance on hand.....	766. 88
	<hr/> 127, 893. 02

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Col. George W. Adair, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, has been in charge of the office of chief surgeon of the department during the year.

As shown by the medical officers at the various posts upon the monthly reports of sick and wounded, the mean strength of the command for the whole department for the fiscal year was: Officers, 68; enlisted men, 1,284; total, 1,352.

The total admissions to sick report during the year were 1,764, which would give a rate of 1,304 per thousand of mean strength. This rate is slightly in excess of that of the previous fiscal year.

As a result of disease, wounds, and injuries from among the officers and enlisted men on duty at the various posts the Government

sustained a loss of 19,513 days (15,920 in hospital and 3,593 in quarters), giving an average of 14.43 days for each officer and enlisted man in the department, or 3.9 per cent of the command constantly noneffective.

The average number of days lost by each man admitted to sick report was 11.06.

There were 9 deaths occurring from among the officers and enlisted men on duty at the various posts of the department during the fiscal year.

On account of sickness and injury the number of officers and men constantly noneffective in the department was 53.46.

The constantly noneffective rate is thought to be the true basis in determining the healthfulness of any command, and by reference to the following table it may be noted that the constantly noneffective rate shows an improvement over that of the previous fiscal year as well as the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906. The discharged for disability rate remains practically the same as for the preceding year. The admission rate is somewhat higher, but not such as to call for extended comment. The death rate shows an increase nearly treble that of the last fiscal year, due mostly to the three violent deaths occurring at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Year.	Ratio per 1,000 mean strength.			
	Admitted.	Discharged for disability.	Died.	Constantly non-effective.
1892-93	1,206	21.06	6.01	38.16
1893-94	1,013	17.89	6.22	31.11
1894-95	898	12.72	2.93	27.85
1895-96	763	12.26	5.93	25.60
1896-97	896	13.56	3.19	31.30
1897-98				
1898-99	3,479	53.58	17.61	83.89
1899-1900	1,469	23.74	4.42	33.59
1900-1901	1,240	30.63	2.45	31.55
1901-2	1,521	13.65	5.46	42.10
1902-3	1,472	24.01	9.47	39.31
1903-4	1,262	28.09	7.70	41.06
1904-5	1,151	21.09	6.66	36.31
1905-6	1,207	25.95	4.79	45.08
1906-7	1,082	19.78	2.55	43.78
1907-8	1,304	19.96	6.65	39.53

Discharges on surgeon's certificates of disability during the year ended June 30, 1908, numbered 27, as follows: Causes in line of duty, 5; causes not in line of duty, 11; causes prior to enlistment, 11.

The medical officers at the various posts have performed their duties in a satisfactory manner at all times.

The members of the Hospital Corps have been instructed daily in the scheme of instruction and the morale of the corps is reported as good.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The following paymasters have been on duty in this department during the year: Maj. J. B. Houston, paymaster, U. S. Army, chief paymaster, July 1 to December 21, 1907. Maj. P. C. Stevens, paymaster, U. S. Army, July 1 to December 21, 1907; in charge of office

of chief paymaster, December 22, 1907, to May 26, 1908; chief paymaster, May 27 to June 30, 1908. Capt. J. K. Miller, paymaster, U. S. Army, January 12 to June 17, 1908; left St. Paul, Minn., June 17 for temporary duty at Omaha, Nebr.

The posts in the department have been paid in person, excepting Fort Keogh, Mont., from October, 1907, and Fort Assiniboine, Mont., from October, 1907, to April, 1908. The total disbursements during the fiscal year were \$859,492.58. The deposits received during the fiscal year were \$30,815.05.

ENGINEER CORPS.

The following engineer officers have been on duty in this department since June 30, 1907: Lieut. Col. W. H. Bixby, from July 1 to October 16, 1907; Maj. Francis R. Shunk, from October 16, 1907, to June 30, 1908. The office force consists of one junior engineer, who acts also as clerk and draftsman.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED.

Field work on four quadrangles of the progressive military map was entirely completed and work on three quadrangles nearly completed during the season of 1907. Maps of the four completed quadrangles have been forwarded to the Chief, Second (Mil. Inf.) Division, General Staff, Washington, D. C., for reproduction, and copies of the same, containing nonconfidential information only, have been made and forwarded to the Director, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., for use in future revision of atlas sheets.

Quadrangles have been selected and maps of the same secured from the Director, United States Geological Survey, for the next season's work on the progressive military map.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

This office has been under charge of Col. James Rockwell, Ordnance Department, continuously during the year.

The duties have principally related to the revision and forwarding of requisitions for ordnance stores from the several posts in the department, and no complaints have been received as to the quantity, quality, or mode of supply.

During the year the department has been supplied with the new rifle and ammunition, but they have been in use too short a time for intelligent criticism or suggestions in regard to them.

SIGNAL CORPS.

The following officers have been on duty as chief signal officer of this department since June 30, 1907: First Lieut. Douglas McCaskey, Fourth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from April 29 to September 19, 1907; Col. James Rockwell, Ordnance Department, from September 19, 1907, to May 14, 1908; First Lieut. George P. Tyner, Second Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from May 14 to June 30, 1908.

The Signal Corps maintains post telephone systems at Forts Snelling, Lincoln, Missoula, Yellowstone, and William Henry Harrison.

The following outlying stations in the Yellowstone National Park have telephonic communication with each other and with Fort Yellowstone over military lines: Tower Falls, Norris, Canyon, Lake, Thumb, and Snake River. A detachment of Troop K, Sixth Cavalry, during the summer of 1907, constructed a bracket line from Fort Yellowstone to Tower Falls Station, a distance of 18 miles, and erected poles 3 miles from Tower Falls toward Soda Butte Station. A detachment of the Signal Corps cross-armed the poles of the Yellowstone National Park Company, placed the park company's wire at one end of the arm, and strung the military wire on the other end, from Fort Yellowstone to Norris, Canyon, and Lake stations, a distance of 47 miles. This detachment also repaired the old military line from Lake Station via Thumb Station to Snake River Station, a distance of 38 miles.

During the months of May and June, 1908, a telephone line has been practically completed between Tower Falls and Soda Butte stations, a distance of 18 miles. The telephone line between Fort Yellowstone, Wyo., and Gardiner, Mont., is being rebuilt.

Underground telephonic equipment consisting of 1,200 yards of 2-pair lead-covered cable has been installed on the target range at Fort Snelling, Minn., the work having been completed May 5, 1908.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

The following officers have been on duty in this department as inspectors of small-arms practice for the year ending June 30, 1908: First Lieut. Henry M. Bankhead, Seventeenth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from July 1 to October 25, 1907; Col. James Rockwell, Ordnance Department, from October 26 to December 17, 1907; Capt. George H. Shields, jr., Third Infantry, aid-de-camp, from December 17, 1907, to April 2, 1908; Col. James Rockwell, Ordnance Department, from April 2 to May 14, 1908; First Lieut. Archibald F. Comiskey, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from May 14 to June 30, 1908.

The results of the target firing in the Department of Dakota for 1907 were published in General Orders, No. 73, headquarters Department of Dakota, November 21, 1907.

The troops are now using the new rifle and new ammunition with the pointed bullet.

Subtarget gun machines and the Hollifield recording target practice rifle rods have been issued to Company I, Sixth Infantry, at Fort Missoula, Mont., and to Company I, Twenty-eighth Infantry, at Fort Snelling, Minn. Reports of these appliances have not yet been received.

REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Owing to increased cost of living, the pay of employees at these headquarters, such as messengers, teamsters, stablemen, and others, is inadequate, and I recommend that a ration be given to each employee whose pay is \$60 per month or less.

At present the department is in a depleted condition as regards troops, the headquarters and two battalions of the Twenty-eighth Infantry being on detached service in Cuba, and nearly all the organizations present being reduced by recent discharges.

With the excellent post commanders on duty in this department, I am anticipating great improvement in the condition of this command during the coming year, but in this connection I wish to call attention to the large number of absent officers, 35 line officers being absent out of a total of 108, 19 of them being captains.

Respectfully submitted.

W. S. EDGERLY,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.



REPORT DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
San Antonio, Texas, August 1, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the annual report of the Department of Texas.

I have been on duty commanding the department during the entire year, and absent from these headquarters within the department thirty days. I have not been without the department during the year.

The records show fewer changes than the last annual report.

The Southwestern rifle and pistol competitions were held on the range, on Leon Springs Reservation, from July 29 to August 5, 1907, and were successfully conducted.

The purchase of lands for the small-arms practice, field-gun practice, and maneuver grounds was successfully terminated and reports forwarded. Cost of purchase \$111,881.80. It is an admirable piece of land for the purposes intended; it has been improved since purchase, and further recommendation will be made; more water and storage therefor must be obtained to make this ground an ideal one for the use of troops in field exercises.

The regular target practice of the department was conducted with good results until the order for marches and concentration of troops in the maneuver camp near Leon Springs in July, received May 15, rendered it necessary to somewhat curtail and hurry the practice; some extension of time will be necessary, which will receive attention.

The work of construction of the new post of Fort Sam Houston has been prosecuted with vigor during the year by Capt. L. J. Fleming, Fourteenth Cavalry, constructing quartermaster.

The abandonment of Fort Reno as a military station was completed February 24, and the troops then comprising the garrison sent to Fort Mackenzie, Wyo. A small detachment was left to clear up the property, and finally, on May 25, it was duly turned over to the Quartermaster's Department for use as a remount depot, the properties of the different supply departments having been disposed of according to necessities in each case.

ABOLISHMENT OF THE DIVISIONS, JUNE 30, 1907.

Pursuant to General Orders, No. 95, War Department, 1907, the Southwestern Division was discontinued on June 30 and the records forwarded to the departments at Washington. The properties were distributed to the different departments of the division in an equitable way, and the officers, clerks, and messengers sent to other stations as per orders.

INSTRUCTION OF TROOPS, THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL.

The instruction of the troops in this department—theoretical and practical—was carried out according to existing orders and, it is believed, with benefit to all concerned. The target practice was somewhat hurried by the departure on the concentration marches for Leon Springs encampment, June 15 to 31, inclusive.

DISCIPLINE, DESERTIONS, ETC.

The discipline of the command throughout the year has been good.

The average of desertions seems to be about the same as last year. It is noticed that there has been a considerable increase in the number of desertions in the light artillery, and a corresponding decrease in the infantry and cavalry, while the total number of desertions is only a few less. I am still unable to account for numerous desertions; most all of them occur in the first few months of service, and it is to be presumed recruits find the life not just what they expected and so leave it.

Desertions, 1907-8.

Month.	Staff corps.	Cavalry.	Artillery.	Infantry.	Total.	Fort Bliss.	Fort Clark.	Fort Logan H. Root.	Fort McIntosh.	Fort Reno.	Fort Sam Houston.	Fort Sill.	Total.
July.....	0	6	2	4	12	4	1	0	0	0	6	1	12
August.....	1	5	5	4	15	0	3	1	1	0	3	4	15
September.....	0	2	3	2	7	0	1	1	0	0	3	1	7
October.....	1	6	6	3	16	0	4	4	0	1	5	5	16
November.....	0	16	0	5	21	1	1	1	0	0	17	0	21
December.....	0	1	6	3	10	0	1	0	0	0	4	5	10
January.....	0	0	5	15	20	9	0	1	0	0	0	2	20
February.....	3	0	3	5	11	3	0	1	1	0	6	0	11
March.....	0	1	4	3	8	0	0	0	3	0	3	1	8
April.....	0	0	8	12	20	6	0	0	0	0	4	6	20
May.....	0	2	5	24	31	10	1	1	6	0	9	4	31
June.....	6	0	6	6	18	0	0	3	3	0	7	5	18
Total.....	11	39	53	86	189	33	14	11	18	4	75	34	189
Total, 1906-7.....	0	56	11	124	191	10	23	26	13	13	93	13	191

Month.	Number of enlisted men present and absent within department.						
	Staff corps.	Cavalry.	Artillery.	Infantry.	Scouts.	Recruits.	Total.
July.....	120	617	414	802	33	22	2,008
August.....	113	603	409	1,058	33	22	2,233
September.....	120	641	393	1,218	33	22	2,413
October.....	118	729	363	1,207	33	22	2,478
November.....	110	274	367	1,204	33	22	2,053
December.....	110	271	363	939	33	22	1,798
January.....	115	269	377	1,166	33	22	2,012
February.....	109	671	540	831	33	22	2,234
March.....	103	804	641	1,241	33	22	2,856
April.....	121	782	728	1,298	33	17	2,979
May.....	123	746	733	1,641	33	33	3,209
June.....	124	716	739	1,668	33	34	3,314
Total.....	115	594	501	1,181	33	37	2,466
Total, 1906-7.....	115	886	227	1,481	33	28	2,770

Average percentage enlisted men present and absent within department:	
1907-8	6.5
1906-7	6.9
Percentage of desertions, 1907-8:	
Cavalry	5.4
Artillery	8.7
Infantry	7.5
Percentage of desertions, 1906-7:	
Cavalry	6.3
Artillery	4.9
Infantry	8.4

UNIFORMS, TENTAGE, ETC.

The posts have been generally very well supplied. Some difficulty has been found in fitting new men for whom clothing was not originally intended.

The department is generally well equipped in tentage and other articles of equipment. Some tentage will undoubtedly have to be replaced after the July camp and maneuvers.

WORKING OF GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 177, WAR DEPARTMENT, 1907.

According to reports received and from personal observation, the provisions of General Orders, No. 177, 1907, seem to have worked very well.

Of articles to be carried in blanket roll consensus of reports seems to confirm the opinion that the poncho is an undesirable additional weight for the use made of it. On the march it is rolled inside the tent piece and not of use; if worn outside, it draws the sun. Properly, to be of use, it should be carried on the belt, but it does increase the weight there. I think the housewife should be an original issue. Any weight is of course a burden to the soldier, but I do not well see how the number of articles, except the poncho, can well be decreased.

COAST ARTILLERY DISTRICT OF GALVESTON.

Defined per General Orders, No. 62, current series, War Department. No artillery district has as yet been established in fact; guns are in place, but there have been no buildings for the use of troops erected on the ground set apart at Fort Crockett. As yet the department commander has no control over these, and no inspections have been made for that reason.

It is presumed construction of these buildings will begin within this year.

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

Administration.—The offices of the chief of staff and of the adjutant-general have been admirably conducted during the year, and clerks and messengers have performed good and efficient service.

Aids-de-Camp.—First Lieut. Marlborough Churchill, Third Field Artillery, and First Lieut. Samuel T. Mackall, Eighteenth Infantry.

The services of these officers have been of infinite value during the year, both in many confidential and official connections, as in personal relations affecting command.

The relations to the commanding general and between themselves of all the officers conducting the staff departments have been of utmost harmony and good will, which lends much to the efficiency of the administration of a department.

INSPECTION OF POSTS.

No posts were inspected by the department commander in person, except Fort Sam Houston, it not having been considered necessary the first half of the year on account of recent inspections by regular inspectors; and the last half could not be used owing to restrictions in travel orders rendered necessary by shortage of funds.

FORT BLISS, TEX.

Garrisoned during the fiscal year as follows: Headquarters, field, staff, band, and Companies A, B, C, and D, Nineteenth Infantry, from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Detachment Hospital Corps and detachment recruits (recruit depot post) during entire year.

The Suburban Street Railway Company of El Paso, Tex., was granted right of way over Fort Bliss Reservation by the Secretary of War, per revocable license dated June 2, 1908, and work has been commenced.

It is my opinion that this post should be increased by one battalion of infantry and a squadron of cavalry. One battalion of the Nineteenth Infantry was sent out of this department in February, 1908.

It is recommended in the interest of efficiency and regimental control that the battalion of the Sixteenth Infantry now stationed in this department at Fort Logan H. Roots, Ark., be sent to the Department of the Missouri, and the battalion of the Nineteenth Infantry now at Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., in the Department of the Missouri, be sent to this department. This change would not alter the number of troops in either department, but would give complete regiments, instead of parts of two regiments in each department.

FORT CLARK, TEX.

Garrisoned during the fiscal year as follows: Headquarters, field, staff, band, and Troops A, B, C, K, L, and M, First Cavalry, from July 1 to November 30, 1907. Troops D and I, First Cavalry, from July 1, 1907, to February 28, 1908. Headquarters, field, staff, band and Troops A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H, Third Cavalry, from February 19 to June 30, 1908. Detachment Seminole Negro-Indian scouts during entire year. Detachment Hospital Corps and detachment Signal Corps during entire year.

This post will probably be recommended for abandonment as soon as the new structures for cavalry are finished at Fort Sam Houston.

FORT LOGAN H. ROOTS, ARK.

Garrisoned during the fiscal year as follows: Detachment Ninth and Sixteenth Infantry, from July 1 to September 24, 1907. Companies A, B, C, and D, Sixteenth Infantry, from September 24, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Detachment Hospital Corps during entire year.

FORT M'INTOSH, TEX.

Garrisoned during the fiscal year as follows: Companies I, K, L, and M, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from July 1 to August 4, 1907. Companies E, F, G, and H, Nineteenth Infantry, from August 4, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Detachment Hospital Corps during entire year.

A new rifle range 8 miles from the post has been rented during the year, and the purchase of the ground recommended. There are evidently some additions necessary to the water supply of this post, which will be made the subject of a recommendation later.

FORT RENO, OKLA.

This post was garrisoned by First Battalion, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from July 1 to August 4, 1907; Third Battalion, Nineteenth Infantry, from August 4, 1907, to February 24, 1908; detachment Nineteenth Infantry from February 24 to May 25, 1908, when it was abandoned as a military post under General Orders, No. 190, War Department, 1907.

Under General Orders, No. 59, current series, War Department, a remount depot was established at this post.

Capt. Letcher Hardeman, Quartermaster's Department, assumed charge on May 25, 1908. Since then the department commander has had no jurisdiction.

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEX.

This post was inspected by the department commander from March 17 to April 3, 1908.

Garrisoned during the fiscal year as follows: Troops E, F, and G, First Cavalry, from July 1 to November 30, 1907. Troop H, First Cavalry, from July 1, 1907, to February 28, 1908. Headquarters, field, staff, band, and Batteries A and B, Third Field Artillery, from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Headquarters, field, staff, band, and Companies A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Ninth Infantry, from August 18, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Company B, Ninth Infantry, from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Troops I, K, L, and M, Third Cavalry, from February 28 to June 30, 1908. Detachment Hospital Corps and detachment recruits (recruit depot post) during entire year.

Grading and new construction have been continued during the year with good results. Provision should be made for the quarters and stables of the balance of the First Battalion, Third Field Artillery, now at Fort Snelling.

The ranges for artillery here are good.

There is great need for additional quarters within the infantry garrison. Generally the post and troops in garrison have been in good condition during the entire year.

The military establishment at San Antonio, Tex., consists of the department headquarters, offices, and residences; the post of Fort Sam Houston, comprising the old infantry post and the new cavalry and artillery post; and the Leon Springs Reservation, which latter includes three divisions, with a lodge house and grounds in each, the reservation water supply system, consisting of about seven different plants, and the distributing mains in the various camps, and the camp buildings, numbering about 70, constructed for use in recent maneuvers.

FORT SILL, OKLA.

Garrisoned during the fiscal year as follows: Headquarters, field, staff, band, and Batteries A, B, and C, First Field Artillery, from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Detachment Hospital Corps and detachment Indian scouts during the entire year.

The Wichita, Mexico and Orient Railway Company was granted right of way over Fort Sill Reservation by the Secretary of War, per revocable license dated January 30, 1908.

No work has begun as yet on new quarters for artillery.

MILITARY RESERVATIONS.

The military reservations in this department are for the most part in excellent condition. Proper jurisdiction has been obtained over the new tracts at Fort Sam Houston and the Leon Springs Reservation.

FIRES AT POSTS AND ON MILITARY RESERVATIONS.

Three fires occurred at Fort Clark during the year, on January 14, February 3, and February 7, 1908. The first one destroyed a hay shed and part of its contents, the damage amounting to less than \$500; the second one, in the post bath house, and the third in the officers' mess building; in the latter two cases the damage was very slight.

There have also been several grass fires on the Leon Springs Reservation during the year, which were promptly controlled by the detachment of troops stationed there.

MILITIA.

The militia of the several States in the department were inspected as follows:

Organization.	Inspector.	Date.
<i>Arkansas.</i>		
Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, L, M, First Infantry; Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, K, L, M, Second Infantry, and state headquarters.	Maj. James K. Thompson, Sixteenth Infantry.	Mar. 5-Apr. 13, 1908.
<i>Oklahoma.</i>		
Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, headquarters, and band, First Infantry; Engineer Corps, Hospital Corps, Signal Corps, and Machine-Gun Platoon.	Maj. John Cotter, Ninth Infantry.	Jan. 29-Feb. 14, 1908.
<i>Texas.</i>		
Companies B, K, C, D, Separate Battalion: A, Signal Corps: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, L, band, and headquarters, Second Infantry: A, G, L, M, Third Infantry: Troops A, C, and headquarters, First Cavalry.	Lieut. Col. Wm. C. Buttler, Ninth Infantry.	Mar. 16-Apr. 9, 1908.
Companies M, Second Infantry, B, C, D, E, F, H, I, and headquarters, Third Infantry: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, L, M, band, and headquarters, Fourth Infantry: Troops B and D, First Cavalry: First Battery, Field Artillery: brigade headquarters.	Maj. Waldo E. Ayer, Ninth Infantry.	Mar. 15-Apr. 10, 1908.
Company K, Fourth Infantry.	Lieut. Col. Frank B. Jones, Nineteenth Infantry.	Mar. 25, 1908.
Company I, Second Infantry.	Maj. Edwin A. Root, Nineteenth Infantry.	Mar. 31, 1908.

The reports of these inspections were forwarded at the proper time.

GARRISON SCHOOLS FOR OFFICERS.

These were conducted as per orders, with a general satisfactory degree of efficiency.

POST SCHOOLS FOR ENLISTED MEN.

The attendance on these schools being voluntary on the part of the enlisted men, the number attending has been small. Schools were maintained at Fort Sill and Fort Sam Houston, but were not very satisfactory. It is believed the benefits derived from these schools are not worth further maintenance of them.

POST SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN.

No schools for children were established during the year, as the children at the different posts all attended schools in adjoining towns.

SEMINOLE NEGRO-INDIANS AT FORT CLARK.

Some provision will of necessity have to be made for these people upon the abandonment of Fort Clark. The matter is being given thought.

SEMINOLE NEGRO-INDIAN SCOUTS. (FORT CLARK.)

Upon the abandonment of Fort Clark it would seem proper to send these scouts to one of the other border posts.

APACHE INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR AT FORT SILL.

From all reports these prisoners still continue to thrive. No direct reports are received, as the department commander has no jurisdiction.

APPOINTMENT OF A CHIEF OF INFANTRY.

The appointment of a chief of infantry is recommended.

CYCLONE SUFFERERS.

The following summary shows action of this department regarding cyclone sufferers in May, 1908:

W. D. Tel. ordering relief.	Localities to be visited.	Officer detailed.	Date when he reached place.	Conditions found, relief needed, and action taken.
May 9	Ambia, Lamar County, Tex.	Major Bundy, inspector-general.	May 11	Hamlet of 100 people; 2 houses and barn destroyed; no one seriously hurt; no one applied for aid and none needed.
	Deport, Lamar County, Tex.	.....do.....	May 18	Population 1,000; 12 buildings destroyed; 200 people homeless; 18 injured; 60 in actual want; arranged to buy 30 days' rations for that number; requested shipment 10 tents, which were shipped same date.
	Conway, Faulkner County, Ark.	Major Thompson, Sixteenth Infantry.	May 11	Relief committee reported people given relief as contemplated in his instructions; area of destruction small; no medical attention needed.
	Perryville, Perry County, Ark.	.....do.....	.....do.....	People given relief by committee; no further relief to be given; area of destruction small; no medical attention needed.
May 12	Avery, Red River County, Tex.	Major Bundy, inspector-general.	May 15	Twelve buildings scattered over area 15 miles long; no one seriously hurt; this case did not require government relief.
	Watson, Desha County, Ark.	Major Thompson, Sixteenth Infantry.	May 18	Mayor reports no assistance needed in that vicinity; Major Thompson's opinion that none was needed.
	Monticello, Drew County, Ark.	.....do.....	May 19	People had been given relief as contemplated by his instructions; area of destruction small; no medical attention needed.
May 20	Linden, Cass County, Tex.	Major Bundy, inspector-general.	May 23	Population 450; 25 buildings destroyed; 4 people killed; 2 injured; \$1,000 donated for relief from other towns. No government aid needed.
May 23	Ben Franklin, Delta County, Tex.	.....do.....	.....do.....	Came through that place few days after storm; damage there did not require government aid; secretary Board of Trade, Paris, Tex., investigated and found no aid needed.

On May 9, 1908, Hon. H. D. Clayton, M. C., requested favorable consideration of appeal from people at Fitzpatrick, Ala., for building material. (Held, appropriation \$250,000 by Congress, not for building purposes.)

On May 11, 1908, the War Department advised that tentage, cots, and blankets be supplied if needed.

On May 14, 1908, the War Department advised that Maj. W. L. Simpson, Nineteenth Infantry, would take charge of all disbursements for relief of storm sufferers in Southern States.

MEXICAN BORDER TROUBLES.

There have been continued rumors of trouble on the border of Mexico; during September of last year reports of contemplated movements of revolutionary parties led me to establish an outpost at Del Rio and one at Eagle Pass, with a squadron of cavalry on a practice march near the mouth of Devils River. No attempts known to the department commander were made at that time to cross the river. The troops were returned and the border continued quiet until the movement which culminated in the attack on Las Vacas, on June 26, undoubtedly assisted by Mexican residents on the American side of the river. At midnight of June 29 I received telegraphic

orders regarding disposition of troops, all the troops of the department being then on the march toward the Leon Springs encampment, but well in hand at all times. I took two troops Third Cavalry from the field, marched them to San Antonio, and within twenty-four hours from receipt of telegram they were placed in Del Rio ready for any use required. At the same time Captain Conrad, Third Cavalry, was sent with one-half of the troop left at Fort Clark to march at once to Del Rio, which was accomplished in a very short time. Being actually in camp on the maneuver grounds it was not considered at the time necessary to assume personal control on the border, and I remained in camp to receive the incoming troops.

PREPARATIONS FOR MANEUVERS.

After receipt of orders on May 15 for the concentration of troops and militia at the camp near Leon Springs in July, the schedules made in February were carried out for the most part, as then contemplated for October, the marches and journeys by rail so timed that the troops were to arrive at the maneuver camp by noon June 30. They all did arrive and reported to the camp commander between the hours of 7.30 and 9.30 that day, in good condition, having evidently carried out in every particular the existing orders for concentration.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The absence of so many officers from their regiments and posts continues to embarrass to the greatest degree, and it is evident that some legislation is necessary to relieve this stress. I renew my recommendation of last year that a supernumerary list of officers of all ranks should be provided in order to replace with the troops over 600 officers, whom it seems imperative to withdraw from the line for the various duties imposed. The line suffers unnecessarily by such details if not replaced by other officers.

The increase in pay given both officers and enlisted men has, in my opinion, had a most salutary effect, and the adjustment of pay of officers required to be mounted a most satisfactory one.

Strenuous attempts have been made in this department to prevent the illicit sale of clothing by enlisted men and its purchase by civilians. In one or two cases there have been unfavorable decisions. It is evident legislation is needed. One case of an impostor wearing uniform clothing was taken up, but dropped for lack of jurisdiction.

I renew my recommendation of last year for an increase of ten regiments in the infantry arm, and the establishment of a suitable service corps for the army.

I also renew my recommendation of last year for the reestablishment of the canteen.

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

The administration of the department has proceeded upon lines indicated in all previous reports and under the new conditions made necessary by the closing of the geographical divisions on June 30, 1907.

Officers serving in the various staff departments during the year have been as follows:

Chief of staff.—Maj. Henry L. Ripley, General Staff, chief of staff of the department from August 6, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Aids-de-camp.—First Lieut. Marlborough Churchill, Third Field Artillery, aid-de-camp to Brig. Gen. Albert L. Myer, U. S. Army, for the entire year. First Lieut. Samuel T. Mackall, Eighteenth Infantry, aid-de-camp to Brig. Gen. Albert L. Myer, U. S. Army, from July 17, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Adjutant-general.—Lieut. Col. Charles J. Crane, adjutant-general from July 1 to September 16, 1907 (absent sick during same period). Maj. Ernest Hinds, adjutant-general, performing the duties of adjutant-general of the department from July 1 to September 18, 1907. Maj. Henry L. Ripley, General Staff, chief of staff, in charge of office from September 19 to October 10, 1907. Lieut. Col. Charles McClure, adjutant-general from October 11 to December 29, 1907. Maj. William Lassiter, adjutant-general from December 30, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Inspector-general.—Maj. Omar Bundy, Sixth Infantry, acting inspector-general from July 5, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Judge-advocate.—Capt. Charles E. Hay, jr., acting judge-advocate during the entire year, excepting the period from August 21 to October 21, 1907 (on leave during latter period). Maj. Ernest Hinds, adjutant-general, in charge of office from August 22 to September 20, 1907. Maj. Omar Bundy, Sixth Infantry, acting inspector-general, in charge of office from September 21 to October 20, 1907.

Chief quartermaster.—Lieut. Col. Robert R. Stevens, deputy quartermaster-general for the entire year.

Assistant to chief quartermaster.—Second Lieut. Frederick B. Terrell, Nineteenth Infantry, on temporary duty in office of chief quartermaster from August 3 to September 6, 1907. First Lieut. Hunter Harris, Ninth Infantry, on temporary duty in office of chief quartermaster from September 6 to November 15, 1907. First Lieut. Kaolin L. Whitson, Ninth Infantry, on temporary duty in office of the chief quartermaster from November 20, 1907, to February 29, 1908. First Lieut. Hunter Harris, Ninth Infantry, on temporary duty in office of the chief quartermaster since March 1, 1908.

Chief commissary.—Capt. Samuel B. Bootes, commissary from July 1 to December 9, 1907. Capt. Louis H. Bash, commissary from December 9, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Chief surgeon.—Col. Joseph B. Girard, Medical Corps, for the entire year.

Chief paymaster.—Maj. Hamilton S. Wallace, paymaster from July 1 to July 29, 1907 (on leave during that period). Maj. Robert S. Smith, paymaster from September 6, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Capt. Edward C. Carey, paymaster, in charge of office from July 1 to August 4, 1907. Capt. George D. Arrowsmith, paymaster, in charge of office from August 4 to September 6, 1907.

Chief engineer officer.—Capt. William P. Wooten, Corps of Engineers, with station at Dallas, Tex., for the entire year, excepting the period from August 8 to September 2, 1907 (on leave during latter period).

Assistant to chief engineer officer.—First Lieut. Samuel T. Mackall, Eighteenth Infantry, aid-de-camp, assistant to the chief engineer officer of the department from August 16, 1907, to June 30, 1908, and in charge of office of chief engineer officer of the department from August 8 to September 2, 1907.

Chief ordnance officer.—Lieut. Col. Frank Baker, Ordnance Department, from July 1 to August 7, 1907, and from October 7 to October 27, 1907. Lieut. Col. Charles H. Clark, Ordnance Department, from November 26, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Maj. Omar Bundy, Sixth Infantry, acting inspector-general, in charge of office from August 8 to October 6, 1907. Capt. Samuel B. Bootes, commissary, in charge of office from October 28 to November 25, 1907.

Chief signal officer.—Capt. Samuel B. Bootes, commissary, from July 1 to August 12, 1907. First Lieut. Marlborough Churchill, Third Field Artillery, aid-de-camp, from August 13, 1907, to June 30, 1908. Second Lieut. Samuel T. Mackall, Eleventh Infantry, aid-de-camp, in charge of office from August 31 to September 30, 1907.

Inspector of small-arms practice.—Capt. Charles E. Hay, jr., acting judge-advocate, from July 1 to August 17, 1907. Second Lieut. Samuel T. Mackall, Eleventh Infantry (now first lieutenant, Eighteenth Infantry), aid-de-camp, from August 18, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Other officers of the staff corps serving in the department.—Maj. James W. Dawes, paymaster, from November 13, 1907, to January 9, 1908. Capt. George D. Arrowsmith, paymaster, from July 1 to September 2, 1907. Capt. Edward C. Carey, paymaster, for the entire year. Capt. Lawrence J. Fleming, quartermaster (now captain, Fourteenth Cavalry), in charge of construction at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., during the entire year.

The following extracts from the reports of the chiefs of the several staff departments at these headquarters are quoted as worthy of consideration:

CHIEF OF STAFF'S REPORT.

The attendance on post schools for enlisted men, now being voluntary on the part of the men, the number attending has been small. Schools were maintained at Fort Sill and Fort Sam Houston only, and the results were not satisfactory. It is not believed the benefits derived from these schools are worth the maintenance of them, and it is recommended they be abolished.

The militia of the several States was inspected in accordance with orders, and reports rendered in proper time by the inspectors.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S REPORT.

While the orders regarding the keeping of records at headquarters save much writing and the keeping of duplicate records in several offices, it seems advisable that the adjutant-general's office at department headquarters should be the receptacle of every record of action taken or recommendation submitted by the department commander. At present in many instances, in order to ascertain what was the action of the department commander, his adjutant-general must ask other offices to loan such record from those files.

* * * * *

Average strength of command during fiscal year.

1907-8.	Officers.			Enlisted men.			Aggregate.
	Present.	Absent.	Total.	Present.	Absent.	Total.	
July	74	77	151	1,792	278	2,070	2,221
August	110	90	200	2,154	151	2,305	2,505
September	115	91	206	2,135	350	2,485	2,691
October	130	76	206	2,403	180	2,583	2,789
November	108	57	165	2,018	76	2,094	2,259
December	109	57	166	1,759	103	1,862	2,028
January	118	47	165	1,963	107	2,070	2,235
February	133	62	195	2,191	99	2,290	2,485
March	129	66	195	2,821	99	2,920	3,115
April	129	71	200	2,939	99	3,038	3,238
May	131	69	200	3,144	115	3,259	3,459
June	40	162	202	1,013	2,301	3,314	3,516
Average	110	77	187	2,194	330	2,524	2,712
Percentage	59	41	.....	87	13	.....	.....

Gains by transfer of organizations to department.

Stations.	Organizations.	Arrival in department.		Strength present and absent on arrival.		
		Date.	From—	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.
Bliss	Headquarters, band, Nineteenth Infantry.	Aug. 2	Philippine Islands...	5	29	34
Clark	Headquarters, band, and First and Second Squadrons, Third Cavalry.	Feb. 19	.....do.....	37	408	445
Logan H. Roots.	First Battalion, Sixteenth Infantry.	Sept. 24	.....do.....	15	186	201
McIntosh	Second Battalion, Nineteenth Infantry.	Aug. 4	.....do.....	15	189	204
Reno	Third Battalion, Nineteenth Infantry.	.....do.....	.....do.....	13	171	184
Sam Houston....	Headquarters, band, and 12 companies Ninth Infantry.	Aug. 18	.....do.....	43	416	459
	Third Squadron, Third Cavalry.	Feb. 19	.....do.....	14	197	211
Total				142	1,595	1,733

Losses by transfer of organizations from department.

Stations.	Organizations.	Departure from department.		Strength present and absent on departure.		
		Date.	To—	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.
Clark	Headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, K, L, M, First Cavalry.	Nov. 30	Philippine Islands...	33	429	462
	Troops D and I, First Cavalry.	Feb. 28	.....do.....	8	128	136
McIntosh	Third Battalion, Twenty-fifth Infantry.	Aug. 5	.....do.....	14	232	246
Reno	First Battalion, Twenty-fifth Infantry.	Aug. 4	.....do.....	15	273	288
	Third Battalion, Nineteenth Infantry.	Feb. 24	Fort Mackenzie, Wyo.	14	189	203
Sam Houston....	Field and staff, Second Squadron, and Troops E, F, and G, First Cavalry.	Nov. 30	Philippine Islands...	11	215	226
	Troop H, First Cavalry.	Feb. 28	.....do.....	3	70	73
Total				98	1,556	1,654

Strength of command on June 30, 1908.

	Officers.			Enlisted men.			Aggregate.
	Present.	Absent.	Total.	Present.	Absent.	Total.	
General officers.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Staff corps.....	11	4	15	90	34	124	139
Cavalry.....	3	47	50	178	538	716	766
Artillery.....	5	31	36	157	582	739	775
Infantry.....	20	80	100	526	1,142	1,668	1,768
G. R. S.....				1		1	1
Recruits.....				29	4	33	33
Indian scouts.....				32	1	33	33
Total.....	40	162	202	1,013	2,301	3,314	3,516

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT.

All garrisoned posts within the department were inspected by me except Forts Reno and Sill and reports rendered. No inspections of these two posts were made because of the restrictions during the last half of the year of orders involving travel.

All recruiting stations were inspected except that at Oklahoma City.

The money accounts of all disbursing officers were inspected as prescribed, except that (for the reason above stated) only one inspection was made of the accounts of the engineer officers on duty at Galveston and Dallas, Tex., and Little Rock, Ark.

The details of inspections of money accounts and of property are as follows:

Money accounts.

Number inspected, 42, and amount involved..... \$2, 274, 431. 00
 Closing statements, 29, and amount involved..... 222, 488. 32
 (Submitted under A. R. 910.)

Property for Condemnation.

	Cost of articles inspected.	Cost of articles condemned.
Quartermaster's supplies.....	\$74, 880. 42	\$73, 187. 70
Subsistence stores.....	61. 53	61. 53
Subsistence property.....	731. 79	731. 79
Ordnance and ordnance stores.....	65, 383. 72	45, 785. 26
Medical property.....	2, 565. 58	2, 544. 15
Signal Corps property.....	75. 77	75. 77
Public animals.....	32, 850. 45	19, 077. 85
Total.....	176, 549. 26	141, 414. 06

NOTE.—The relatively large amount of ordnance and ordnance stores is due to an inspection at the San Antonio Arsenal of an accumulation of obsolete and unserviceable property.

Articles disposed of as follows:

	Number.
Continued in service.....	2, 620
Destroyed.....	40, 943
Sold.....	81, 926
Turned in to depots.....	5, 297
Total.....	130, 786

At all posts inspected the commanding officers were trying to faithfully carry out existing orders relating to the instruction of troops, to practice marches, and to schools. This was being done under adverse circumstances, due to the depleted strength of companies, and to the absence of so many company officers.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S REPORT.

Only one commissioned officer has been tried in this department during the year, resulting in acquittal.

The number of trials of enlisted men by general court-martial was 200, by garrison court-martial 13, and by summary court-martial 1,929. Three military convicts were tried, making a total of 2,154 trials during the year.

The whole number of trials during the year shows a decrease of 407 over 1907.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT.

The instructions governing the preparation for maneuvers during the current year designated Leon Springs Reservation as the field of encampment and operations, and specified October as the period for holding same. Under subsequent and late advancement of this time by three months, in order to render it practicable for the National Guard to attend, the plan and calculations previously formed were necessarily laid aside.

Allotment for the work of preparing the encampment ground reached this office about the middle of June, and rendered it necessary to at once rush preparations. No time was afforded for formation of contracts and completion of the work under that system.

A large number of workmen were at once engaged and encamped on the reservation, and work was proceeded with under the day labor system, the necessary material and supplies having been at once called for. The work thus taken up comprised that of laying out the various camps, clearing and removing brush wood for camp and drill grounds, installing water-distributing mains to reach points moderately accessible for the different camps, constructing camp buildings numbering about 70, and excavating pits for sanitary purposes, together with other details incidental to the establishment and maintenance of the maneuver encampment.

In the plans for all of this work, and in the specifications for machinery for the wells in course of construction, it was necessary to proceed upon an assumed basis as to the water supply which would be actually available. This involved the inevitable chances of a conditional estimate as to failure to meet final developments, and as to liability to misadjustment in the capacity of machinery specified to that of the wells when completed.

Notice of allotment for two wells had reached here April 4, 1908, and proposals for the work received on the basis specified in the estimate; but owing evidently to the demand at that time for well-drilling machinery no proposals were received naming such a time for completion as would meet requirements. Prices named also appeared unreasonable, and considerably exceeded the original estimate. The bids in question were therefore rejected.

Upon a second call, under modified specifications, more satisfactory offers having been received, contract was made and the work proceeded with under the greatest possible expedition.

Failure occurred, however, in the first location at the northwest corner, owing to the occurrence of a cave and to erosion of the earth. This well, which had been counted upon to complete the supply of the camps in the northwest corner, having been abandoned by the contractor, a second location was made and the work resumed. Neither of the wells at this point, however, could be completed in time to be made available for the maneuver encampment.

In the meantime, and shortly after the close of the year, one well had under the same contract been completed on the ridge near the target range. This became the principal source of supply of the camps in Schasse Valley.

The check to water supply operations in the northwest corner, however, had led to the abandonment of the plans for a cavalry encampment in that valley, though the camp grounds had been cleared, distributing mains laid, and the principal buildings erected.

The cavalry command was instead established in Lewis Valley, rendering necessary the erection of camp buildings there and the installation of machinery for utilizing the creek water supply.

A diminution of the water supply of the old northwest well having also later occurred, the artillery was moved from there to the East Gate camp, and subsequently from there to Lewis bottom, also rendering necessary additional extension in camp accommodations and water supply at that place.

The result of these changes was that it had proved finally necessary to prepare five camp grounds instead of three, the number which had formed the basis of the original plans and estimates.

As may be seen altogether, the department entered upon this encampment under emergency conditions in every detail of the undertaking, meeting first the existing necessities and then adding to accommodations from day to day as conditions developed.

The date of the actual completion of this report renders it practicable to say that the second well sunk on the northwest corner proved more successful than the first attempted, and under test has afforded a satisfactory flow of water. Its acceptance has been delayed to await a further test.

It may also be noted that while the water supply on the reservation during the encampment was not such as to render the unrestricted operation of the bath houses practicable, it afforded a satisfactory and sufficient supply for other purposes. The quality of the water was such that no occasion arose for the employment of any form of filter or sterilizer, although a large supply of those articles had been procured for use in the encampment.

Sanitary details generally were maintained in the highest degree of efficiency in each of the camps established, whether main or supplementary.

* * * * *

In all these details material assistance was given by a battalion of the Ninth Infantry, who arrived on the grounds June 17.

* * * * *

Much time has been devoted by department authorities during the year to the study of the entire tract, with a view to the development of its military resources and the improvement and extension of its water supply.

As indicated in the report referred to, it will be undoubtedly necessary, in order to prepare the reservation to meet the varied demands of extensive maneuvers, to resort to deep-well sources for water.

The recent experience of this department in well-drilling operations on this ground, confirmed by other experience so far as it has extended in that vicinity, appears to indicate that good water can be found almost infallibly at a depth of from 300 to 400 feet. This supply, however, while it appears constant under the usual demands for ranch purposes, falters at times as the season advances, and under the continued demand of troops in maneuvers might reach the point of entire failure.

It appears also to be well established that beyond the mid depth and until the deep sources are reached there is little prospect of striking additional water, and the flow which may be secured is liable to be largely impregnated with oil.

Specifications for wells on this ground should, it is believed, provide for drilling to possibly 1,800 feet [note by department commander: "and likely 2,000 feet"], with a view to striking the water-bearing sands of the Travis Peak formation. This appears to be recognized as the most reliable water-bearing horizon of the Rio Grande plain.

The mid-depth water afforded in the wells on the reservation and in the flow of the Lewis Creek furnish together a fair but not liberal supply for the troops in minor maneuvers, as well as in camps for regular target practice and competitions, but, as before indicated, can not be depended upon for maneuvers of large bodies of troops and may be practically discarded from consideration in that connection.

Any new sources for the latter purposes might therefore be located without reference to the existing supply.

Aside from the surveys made during the year for the location of camps and for the preparation of data as to water-supply sources, a survey was made in Lewis Creek bottom for the location of a large lake for storage of water and for use as a feature in connection with military maneuvers.

The scheme, as reported by the engineer employed, appears feasible, plans and specifications therefor having been forwarded by this office June 20, 1908.

The question of the location of a water-supply plant in the same valley with a storage reservoir on a neighboring hill and of the location of camp grounds at the south and east, to be supplied from such a plant, was included in the same survey, and report upon that question is in preparation.

Estimates will be asked for and recommendations made for the boring of at least one well of 2,000 feet to augment the water supply, which is of urgent demand if large maneuvers are again to be held on this ground. The annual target practice of the Fort Sam Houston command and the southwestern competitions demand a much greater flow of water and storage therefor than is at present available.

CHIEF COMMISSARY'S REPORT.

The subsistence department has been ably conducted by the chief commissary during the year.

Average cost of the ration supplied to posts in the department is 16.60 cents.

Total loss of subsistence stores during the year, in condemnation and wastage, including ice, \$1,422.01.

Amount of funds, 1908, of all kinds handled by this office, \$76,522.08.

CHIEF SURGEON'S REPORT.

From the report of the chief surgeon it appears that the health of the troops throughout the year has been fairly good. The proportion of admissions on sick report to strength of command throughout the department is almost identical with that of last year, but the number of days of service lost to the Government is materially smaller.

There have been no serious epidemics of any kind. A few cases of typhoid fever, probably connected with last year's visitation, appeared at Fort Sam Houston. More cases of malarial fever are reported this year than last, probably owing to the fact that nearly all the garrisons have lately returned from the Philippine Islands and brought the germs of disease with them.

From some unknown cause a notable decrease is shown in the number of cases of venereal affections. It is not believed, however, that this decrease is of a permanent character.

Fifteen deaths occurred during the year, four of which were caused by gunshot wounds, the ratio per 1,000 being 5.90. The corresponding ratio last year was 5.57.

Thirty enlisted men have been discharged for disability during the year. In nearly one-half of the cases the disability existed prior to enlistment, which would indicate that more care should be exercised in the physical examination of recruits.

CHIEF PAYMASTER'S REPORT.

The total amount of money disbursed and collected in this department during the fiscal year amounted to \$1,551,956.44; deposits, \$58,615.53; collections, \$35,727.35.

CHIEF ENGINEER OFFICER'S REPORT.

Considerable work was accomplished on progressive map work during the year. Four officers were detailed and all did excellent work.

The following sheets were in the field during the year and all the field work on them was completed:

- 444-S Second Lieut. Carl Boyd, Third Cavalry.
- 467-S { Second Lieut. Ralph W. Kingman, Sixteenth Infantry.
- First Lieut. Harry A. Hegeman, Nineteenth Infantry.
- 490-S First Lieut. Thomas W. Hollyday, Third Field Artillery.

A good deal of work has been done on maps of posts and vicinity. An excellent map of the target and maneuver reservation was made for use of troops in that camp.

CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

This department has been well supplied with stores and munitions of all descriptions during the year.

A memorandum circular regarding requisitions will be published in the near future.

CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

This department has been ably conducted by First Lieut. Marlborough Churchill, Third Field Artillery, aid-de-camp, during the year. The chief signal officer especially commends Sergts. C. H. Davis and Oliver Mikesell, jr., Signal Corps, on duty at these headquarters, for most energetic and useful work during the year, in which I fully concur.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

Up to this time no reports of the target practice for the year have been received. The practice is thought to have been quite satisfactory, except that it was, of necessity, a little hurried.

SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

To provide for one or more deep-bored wells in the Leon Springs Reservation in the hope of securing artesian water for the purposes of the encampments.

I desire to also renew the following special recommendations made in my last annual report:

To provide in the infantry post at Fort Sam Houston one set of field officers' quarters and two sets of lieutenants' quarters.

To provide for the purchase of the drill grounds now rented from Mr. George W. Brackenridge.

To provide a large and commodious drill and riding hall for the new post.

To provide for the conversion of the old hospital into quarters and offices.

To provide for the construction of a new and modern building suitable to the climate for offices and assembly rooms, to be placed in the lower post in front of the present old hospital. The present offices occupied by department headquarters are not suited for the new project and the rooms will be needed for administration of the new post.

Very respectfully,

ALBERT L. MYER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.
THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY. •

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO.

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REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO,
Denver, Colo., July 31, 1908.

SIR: In compliance with General Orders, No. 89, series 1901, and No. 47, series 1902, Headquarters of the Army, I have the honor to render the annual report of the administration of the Department of the Colorado for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908.

The distribution of troops on June 30, 1908, was as follows:

Posts.	Commanding officer.	Troops.
Fort Apache, Ariz.	Maj. Charles J. Stevens, Fifth Cavalry.	Troops E, F, and G, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Douglas, Utah	Col. Walter S. Scott, Fifteenth Infantry.	Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Fifteenth Infantry.
Fort Duchesne, Utah ..	Capt. Wallace B. Scales, Fifth Cavalry.	Troop M, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Huachuca, Ariz. ...	Col. Walter S. Schuyler, Fifth Cavalry.	Headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, and D, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Logan, Colo.	Col. Charles A. Williams, Twenty-first Infantry.	Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, E, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Twenty-first Infantry.
Whipple Barracks, Ariz.	Maj. Fred W. Foster, Fifth Cavalry..	Troop L, Fifth Cavalry, and Company F, Twenty-first Infantry.
Fort Wingate, N. Mex..	Lieut. Col. George K. Hunter, Fifth Cavalry.	Troops H, I, and K, Fifth Cavalry.

Indian scouts.—Fort Apache, 15; Fort Huachuca, 6; Fort Wingate, 6; total, 27.

The movements of troops within the department or transferred to and from it during the period covered by this report are shown in the following statement:

CHANGE OF STATION OF TROOPS.

The headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, I, K, L, and M, Twenty-ninth Infantry, left Fort Douglas, Utah, August 1, 1907, for the Philippine Islands.

Companies G and H, Twenty-ninth Infantry, left Fort Duchesne, Utah, July 25, 1907, for the Philippine Islands.

Companies E, G, and H, of the Twenty-first Infantry, left Fort Logan, Colo., July 28, 1907, for Fort Douglas, Utah, to garrison that station during the absence of a permanent garrison. These three companies left Fort Douglas on December 17, 1907, and returned to Fort Logan.

The Fifteenth Infantry arrived at Fort Douglas, Utah, from the Philippine Islands on December 18, 1907, for station.

Changes in personnel (enlisted).

Enlistments	1,499
Reenlistments	360
From desertion	107
Discharged (expiration term service)	1,161
Discharged (disability)	36
Discharged (by order)	245
Retired	14
Died	12
Deserted	297

The strength of the department, present and absent, June 30, 1907, was 160 commissioned officers and 2,196 enlisted men, and the strength on June 30, 1908, was 163 commissioned officers and 2,353 enlisted men.

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

Brig. Gen. Earl D. Thomas, U. S. Army, during the entire year.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

Fort Apache, Ariz.—Paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 104, 1907.

Fort Bayard, N. Mex.—Paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 104, 1907.

Fort Douglas, Utah.—Paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 72, 1907.

Fort Douglas, Utah.—Paragraph 3, Special Orders, No. 114, 1907.

Fort Duchesne, Utah.—Paragraph 7, Special Orders, No. 78, 1907.

Fort Huachuca, Ariz.—Paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 104, 1907.

Whipple Barracks, Ariz.—Paragraph 3, Special Orders, No. 74, 1907.

Whipple Barracks, Ariz.—Paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 104, 1907.

Fort Wingate, N. Mex.—Paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 104, 1907.

The offices of the adjutant-general, chief ordnance officer, athletic officer, and inspector of small-arms practice have been efficiently administered, with nothing to call for special comment.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

There were no trials of commissioned officers by courts-martial during the year.

Enlisted men tried by general court-martial:

Acquitted	13
Convicted	205

Enlisted men tried by garrison court-martial:

Convicted	11
Acquitted	1

Enlisted men tried by summary court-martial:

Convicted	1,468
Acquitted	8

A satisfactory state of discipline has in general prevailed, but it is believed that a higher standard might be attained if a larger number of commissioned officers ceased to adhere to the opinion that discipline can be maintained only by recourse to trial by court-martial.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

As a result of disease, wounds, and injuries the Government sustained an average loss per capita of 14.53 days for each officer and enlisted man, or 3.98 per cent of the mean strength was constantly ineffective as compared with 3.41 per cent for the previous year.

There were 12 deaths from all causes, 36 discharges on surgeon's certificate of disability, and 218 cases of infectious diseases reported among officers and enlisted men.

The contract dental surgeon on duty in the department visited each post during the year.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Seven and one-half miles of new telegraph line were constructed by the Signal Corps, connecting Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and Huachuca siding, Ariz., supplanting the Western Union Company's old line, which had been operated and maintained by the Signal Corps for several years.

The installation of a second-class telephone equipment for post rifle range at Fort Wingate, N. Mex., in May last, completes the equipment of all posts in the department with the approved system. No complaints have been received from posts having this equipment during the year.

Modern post telephone systems have been installed during the year at Whipple Barracks, Ariz., and Fort Logan, Colo.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.

The principal function of this office during the year was the prosecution of the work on the progressive military map of the United States in southern Arizona and New Mexico, where three topographical parties were employed.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The following is the statement of receipts and disbursements made by this office during the fiscal year, viz:

Received during the year on account of all appropriations-----	\$1, 167, 631. 28
Expended, transferred, etc., during the fiscal year-----	1, 144, 502. 02

Balance on hand-----	23, 129. 26
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During the year one contractor for coal, oats, hay, and straw at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., failed. Steps are in progress to recover the amount of the excess cost of the supplies purchased in open market over the contract price.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The posts and troops in the department have been supplied with stores and property of the best quality obtainable in the markets. The ration has been materially improved during the year and is proving a source of greater contentment among the men. In the opinion of the chief commissary the sirup component should be decreased and the butter component increased. The average cost of the ration was \$0.1769.

The money value of losses, property and stores, was very small. There were no losses on stores at Forts Douglas and Logan; no losses on vegetables at the former and only \$1.38 at the latter post. There was no loss on bacon and flour. The flour is high grade, strong, hard winter wheat flour, milled, inspected, and delivered f. o. b. at the mills in middle Kansas and shipped direct to posts. During the past two years there has not been an unfavorable comment on the flour from any post nor any comment about bad bread.

The disbursements were as follows:

Receipts	\$198, 004. 44
Expenditures	197, 127. 94
Balance	876. 50

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The troops have been regularly and promptly paid each month, the posts of Fort Logan, Colo., Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., and Fort Douglas, Utah, by paymasters in person; all other posts in the department were paid in currency shipped by express.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand and in hands of paymasters July 1, 1907.....	\$148, 599. 27
Received from paymasters outside Department of the Colorado....	201, 000. 76
Received from United States Treasury, war warrants.....	1, 405, 500. 00
Received from soldiers' deposits	63, 293. 50
Received from army paymasters' collections.....	45, 799. 38
Total receipts	1, 864, 192. 91

DISBURSEMENTS.

Surplus appropriations deposited to credit of Treasurer of the United States.....	\$74, 500. 00
Disbursed " Pay of the army ".....	1, 529, 595. 37
Disbursed " Mileage to officers ".....	25, 217. 74
Army paymasters' collections deposited to credit of the Treasurer of the United States.....	45, 799. 38
Soldiers' deposits deposited to credit of the Treasurer of the United States	63, 293. 50
Transferred to paymasters outside Department of the Colorado....	1, 065. 41
Balance on hand and in hands of paymasters July 1, 1908.....	124, 701. 51
Total expenditures	1, 864, 192. 91
Disbursed for fiscal year 1907.....	1, 335, 141. 25
Soldiers' deposits, 1907	70, 046. 10
Disbursed for fiscal year 1908.....	1, 529, 595. 37
Soldiers' deposits, 1908.....	63, 293. 50

Soldiers' deposits for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1908, equal 44 per cent of the disbursements of " Pay of the army," while in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, they were a trifle over 5 per cent.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

All garrisoned posts in the department have been inspected except Forts Wingate and Apache, and this omission was due to the shortage in the mileage appropriation and consequent restrictions upon travel.

All the recruiting stations have been inspected and also the methods of transacting public business at these headquarters.

The required inspections of disbursing officers' accounts have been made except those of the quartermasters and commissaries at Forts Wingate and Apache, for the reason stated.

There were also conducted seven special investigations.

The department inspector comments adversely in his report on the frequency with which company commanders are changed, with its corresponding demoralizing effect on discipline and efficiency. The only sufficient corrective measure for this is remedial legislation that will provide for the filling by promotion or appointment of places made vacant by the numerous details on detached service.

Attention is again directed by him to the fact that we have no general service corps. In this connection I desire to renew my recommendation of last year: "If the necessary congressional action can not be had, that Army Regulations be amended so as to permit all extra and special duty men performing nonmilitary labor away from their companies to be assigned to organizations, the efficiency of which will be determined by the character and nature of the duty they are performing."

Special reports submitted to the inspector from posts occupied by the Fifth Cavalry show a deficiency of over 100 horses. Of the number on hand (732) but 652 are reported fit for garrison duty and 560 fit for campaigning. A similar condition exists among the public animals at posts garrisoned by infantry.

The following comment in the inspector's report is concurred in:

It is believed that the inspector-general's department should have its own corps of clerks, trained in the work of the department. The lack of a specially trained clerk has embarrassed my work in this office, as it did in the last office in which I served. Nearly every other staff department in the army has its own clerical force, and such a system is highly conducive to efficient work wherever it may be established.

POST EXCHANGES.

Exchanges have been maintained at all posts in the department. Following is a statement of the receipts and expenditures at the various exchanges for the fiscal year:

Posts.	Receipts.	Expenditures.
Fort Apache	\$26,952.58	\$26,877.82
Fort Douglas	23,001.68	24,899.67
Fort Duchesne	13,130.92	13,671.96
Fort Huachuca	20,819.23	21,827.85
Fort Logan	17,584.01	16,882.67
Whipple Barracks	6,108.83	5,961.22
Fort Wingate	13,075.11	13,867.84

The reestablishment of the canteen feature of the exchange is recommended.

CALL FOR TROOPS.

For a number of years past an Indian chief, a mischievous spirit of the Navajo tribe, By-a-lil-le by name, has been exercising a pernicious influence upon Indians of that tribe, causing no end of trouble

in the four-corner section of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico. The Indian Bureau, through the War Department, decided to put a stop to By-a-lil-le's activity, for it was becoming apparent that unless early action be taken serious trouble might be anticipated.

On October 22 of last year Troops I and K, Fifth Cavalry, from Fort Wingate, N. Mex., 4 officers and 74 enlisted men, Capt. H. O. Williard, Fifth Cavalry, in command, proceeded to Ship Rock, N. Mex., the Northern Navajo Agency, arriving on October 26.

After consultation with Supt. W. T. Shelton at Four Corners on the 27th, and being assisted by Indian police and guides furnished by the superintendent, Captain Williard determined to take By-a-lil-le's band at once before he or any of his followers should be informed as to the presence of troops in the vicinity. The journey from Ship Rock to the hostile camp was accomplished in one day and night. The turbulent Indians were completely surprised in their camp early on the morning of October 28 by the troops.

The Indians opened fire on the troopers, their fire was returned, and as a result two Indians were killed and one wounded, and in addition By-a-lil-le and eight of his most troublesome followers were arrested. The prisoners were taken to Wingate, thence to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where, with the exception of one since released, they are still confined. The troops, to more surely convince the Indians in general of the pacific purpose of their expedition, remained in the vicinity of Ship Rock till the middle of November.

The affair was skillfully planned and carried out, and reflected marked credit upon this little band of troopers. Captain Williard, by tact and good judgment and skillful execution, averted what might have otherwise developed into a very serious affair.

THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION.

General Orders, No. 177, War Department, of 1907, is an improvement on General Orders, No. 144, of 1906.

The courses prescribed for the garrison and field periods have been as strictly observed by the officers and troops at the various stations in the department as service conditions would permit.

Referring to the soldier's pack, on which special comment is ordered, it is my opinion that the infantry soldier in campaign, at maneuvers, and on practice marches should not as a rule be made to carry on his person anything beyond his arms, ammunition, and canteen. Conditions and circumstances will at times make it imperative that the foot soldier carry rations, extra clothing, and simple camp equipment. On practice marches and maneuvers, however, he should not carry a pack. On an active campaign he should carry a roll containing actual necessities, and then only when it is out of the question to provide transportation for the same. It is believed that the ideal condition is reached when the soldier carries his arms, ammunition, and water—nothing more; or, in other words, animal transportation is actually cheaper than soldier transportation. The packs containing the articles specified in orders in general can and should be carried in wagons.

The primary purpose of target practice is instruction—not records nor data with the object of making comparisons. Neither foot

soldier nor trooper should be required to carry any unnecessary weight or burden. The wearing of a pack detracts from the soldier's capacity to learn his own shooting qualities. It does not improve his receptive attitude nor increase his interest. It is recommended that paragraph 7, General Orders, No. 177, referred to above, be amended accordingly.

MACHINE GUNS.

The wisdom of attaching a platoon of machine guns to one battalion of each regiment of cavalry and infantry has been fully demonstrated. The platoon, however, has but little character or stability because of lack of a proper organization. I believe it would be a step in the right direction in the evolution of this effective weapon to make provision for a properly organized company of machine guns as one of the units of each regiment of infantry and cavalry.

RECRUITING.

Legislation during the last session of Congress placed the enlisted man of the service in a decidedly superior class as to pay. As an incident to such increase it is anticipated that the various corps and regiments of the army may now be maintained more nearly to authorized strength than heretofore, and, in general, with a higher grade of men than has been possible for the past several years.

The system of having a recruit invariably subjected to physical examination by a surgeon of the army, now in force, rather than by a civilian physician, is believed to have been productive of more satisfactory results. However, wherever a station is deemed of sufficient importance to maintain a regularly organized recruiting party under an officer, there should also be associated with him an officer of the Medical Corps. But at such stations, and also at garrisoned posts, the line officer should unquestionably be the recruiting officer, and the surgeon his assistant in an advisory capacity.

It is hoped that the increase of pay of enlisted men will make possible the abolition of recruiting stations in any of our cities that are near garrisoned posts, and that the inducements now offered will prove sufficient to encourage desirable young men to apply direct to such posts for enlistment.

It is believed that if the present system of original assignment of recruits were modified it might result in increased contentment and diminution of desertions. The first year or first six months of a soldier's life is a most critical period. If practicable, why not send him upon enlistment to a station where climate and local conditions are more or less similar to those under which he has grown up? To explain, at Fort Douglas, Utah, and Fort Logan, Colo., there were enlisted during the year 1,053 men. Most of these men were from applicants sent to the posts by the recruiting officers in Salt Lake City and Denver, respectively. The number would seem to indicate that the regiments serving in the department might perchance be kept filled by local enlistment. Why not try assigning these men to local regiments, instead of going to the expense of sending them to the extreme east and west and then sending men from the extreme east and west to man regiments stationed in this department?

Referring to this subject, the inspector-general of the department remarks as follows:

It is hoped the increase of pay granted enlisted men will materially lessen desertion everywhere, but a fruitful cause will still remain at some posts of this department on account of their extreme isolation. I find that recruits are sent to such posts as Fort Duchesne, Fort Huachuca, etc., who have lived all their lives in eastern cities, and careful inquiry has convinced me that such a radical change during the recruit period, the most trying one of a soldier's life, has proved a prominent cause of desertion. It is recommended that recruits for such stations be supplied wholly from recruiting stations within the limits of the department. Men enlisting at these stations are, as a rule, accustomed to live in small, isolated places, and it is believed they will be more contented at the posts mentioned, or at posts similar to them, than men from more thickly settled parts of the country.

HORSES.

If possible and practicable there should be furnished by the Government at a reasonable price to all officers required to be mounted a type of horse conforming as nearly as possible to the standard of horses accepted for the cavalry service; that is, a horse weighing in the neighborhood of a thousand pounds, free from defects, of good conformation, between 15.1 and 15.3 hands in height, well gaited, and with brain inheritance sufficient to keep him from straddling the nearest wire fence at the twitter of a sparrow.

By this arrangement those officers who are authorized to keep and required to ride horses owned by themselves in the performance of their military duties would be enabled to secure a uniform type and well-formed horse for all purposes, garrison and field.

The recent establishment of an experimental remount depot at Fort Reno, Okla., will, it is believed, furnish horses in sufficient numbers so that officers needing horses can purchase them at cost price, and thus obtain satisfactory animals trained under competent management for service in the field or garrison.

The recent acts of Congress (appropriation bill) state that officers required to be mounted will be allowed a certain amount in excess of regular pay to be paid them by the Pay Department of the Army, if such officers procure themselves at their own expense "suitable mounts." The question naturally arises, What constitutes a suitable mount and who shall determine the standard to which such mounts must accord? A standard should be adopted and published in orders.

GARRISONED POSTS.

Forts Douglas, Utah, and Logan, Colo., are each garrisoned by a regiment of infantry. One company from Logan, however, is for the time being stationed at Whipple Barracks, Ariz. At Fort Douglas there are proper accommodations for but six organizations; the other seven organizations are occupying obsolete, dilapidated buildings that should have long since been replaced by modern barracks. The post is admirably located, and it should be equipped with modern barracks and quarters to properly accommodate a regiment of infantry. Allotment has recently been made for the construction of a new hospital and a bakery, both of which were badly needed. This post, by reason of its beauty and proximity to Salt Lake City, partakes really of the nature of a park and pleasure ground for this city.

There is no suitable dumping ground on the reservation; moreover, the city is rapidly building up to the reservation lines. For these and other reasons the necessity for the construction of a modern crematory of sufficient capacity to consume all garbage and waste is immediate and urgent.

Congress has recently appropriated money for the purchase of ground adjoining Fort Logan and known as the "Fabian tract" and "Rucker Ridge" property. By purchase of the Fabian tract the Government has acquired possession of a good two-story brick building, which can be renovated and remodeled and made suitable for the accommodation of a company of infantry, thereby relieving the present congested condition of the troop quarters. The repairs to this building should receive immediate consideration.

The Rucker Ridge property has not yet been transferred, due to a more complete examination of the water rights and amount of water pertaining thereto being necessary, which may delay the transfer for some time.

The well driven at the Logan target range, which proved a failure a year ago, has, by the expenditure of but a small amount, been made satisfactory. It provided troops and animals during the target season this year with an abundance of excellent water.

The proximity of Fort Wingate, N. Mex., to the Navajo, Ute, Moqui, and Zuni Indian reservations and the frequency with which the troops of this garrison are liable to be called upon to control and allay disturbances render it important that this station should be garrisoned by not less than a squadron of cavalry of four troops.

The Denver, Northwestern and Pacific Railway (Moffat Road), now under construction, will, upon completion, pass close to Fort Duchesne and render the question of accessibility and supply of this post a very simple proposition. At present, because of its isolation, this post is difficult and costly to maintain.

It has been deemed prudent to maintain a garrison at Duchesne because of its proximity to the White Rock Indian Reservation. The band of more or less turbulent and dissatisfied Utes that left the reservation more than a year ago are now being returned. It is recommended that this post be garrisoned by a battalion of infantry, an additional battalion being sent to the department for this purpose, and that the troop now at Duchesne be sent to Fort Wingate, N. Mex., for permanent station.

The rebuilding of Whipple Barracks, Ariz., the construction of which has been prolonged by provoking delays, is now, due to the persistent efforts of the constructing quartermaster, nearing completion, and will probably be ready for occupancy by October.

This post is located on a high ridge, well built, well drained, modern, supplied with good water, and in a very healthy climate. The water supply is purchased from the Prescott Water Company. The supply of potable and drinking water so obtained seems to be ample for such purposes but not of sufficient quantity to warrant the planting of trees and for the irrigation of grounds and lawns so essential in that climate.

It is strongly recommended that the necessary measures be inaugurated at once to supply the deficiency by the construction of a storage reservoir. The present reservation should be enlarged by the pur-

chase of additional land (120 acres, more or less) to the south and west of the old reservoir site and contiguous to the post. This tract would include the site of the new reservoir, the construction of which is recommended. The constructing quartermaster should be authorized at once to make the necessary survey and to prepare plans preparatory to purchase of necessary land and for the construction of such a reservoir. It will have to be done sooner or later, and the sooner the initial steps are taken the better.

It is further recommended that this post, upon completion in October, be garrisoned by a battalion of infantry, preferably to be an additional battalion sent to the department for the purpose, and the troop of cavalry now at Whipple to be sent to Fort Apache to complete the squadron of cavalry at that station.

The frequent rumors and reports of disturbances and incidents of a revolutionary character on our southern frontier emphasize the importance of maintaining the garrison and buildings at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., in an efficient condition.

If my recommendations with reference to the two isolated troops of the Fifth Cavalry are favorably considered, there will then be stationed at Apache, Huachuca, and Wingate a full squadron of four troops. If such a redistribution can be effected, it would mean much to the Fifth Cavalry, that has been so badly handicapped by reason of the number and isolated location of the posts it has been called upon to garrison. By such an arrangement the discipline, training, and mounted efficiency would be affected most favorably.

It is recommended that provision be made to install electric lighting in Whipple Barracks at once; also at Fort Douglas in all of the modern buildings, and in as many others as may be deemed practicable.

Very respectfully,

EARL D. THOMAS,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.
THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA,
San Francisco, Cal., August 10, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the affairs and administration of the Department of California for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908. During this entire period the department has been under the command of the undersigned.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Under the provisions of General Orders, No. 191, War Department, 1905, considerable duplication of work has been prevented, and the transaction of public business facilitated in a manner showing a vast improvement over former methods.

The authorized office force at these headquarters July 1, 1908, consists of:

	Per annum.
1 clerk	\$1, 800
1 clerk	1, 600
3 clerks	1, 400
3 clerks	1, 200
6 clerks	1, 000
6 messengers	720

An allotment of clerks, competent in every respect as to personnel, entirely inadequate in number to handle the volume of official correspondence, which has considerably increased since July 1, 1907, the date of discontinuance of the Pacific Division.

In this connection I desire to reiterate my recommendations of last year as follows:

It is urgently recommended that a clerical force at these headquarters be established in number and rating as follows:

	Per annum.
1 chief clerk	\$1, 800
2 clerks	1, 600
4 clerks	1, 400
8 clerks	1, 200
4 clerks	1, 000

It is further recommended—

1. That the clerks at the various headquarters be drawn from the line of the army as a matter of promotion and advancement to well-deserving and competent enlisted men and not as at present taken from the classified civil-service list.

2. That the pay of clerks be fixed for the first year at \$1,000 per annum, fourth year \$1,200 per annum, seventh year \$1,400 per annum, twelfth year

\$1,600 per annum, and for chief clerks at \$1,800 per annum; that the time served as enlisted men should count in the rating and for retirement at thirty-five years' service at 75 per cent of their salary.

3. That foreign service of clerks should be by roster and of two years' duration, and while on such service allowed an increase of 20 per cent in salary.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Trials by general courts-martial.

Commissioned officers:	
Convicted	2
Acquitted	1
Total officers tried	3

These cases are published in General Orders, No. 29, War Department, 1908, and General Orders, Nos. 24 and 95, Department of California, 1908.

Enlisted men tried (including 5 discharged enlisted men serving as military convicts):	
Convicted	229
Acquitted	18
Total enlisted men tried	247

The following table shows the number of convictions of different offenses by general court-martial:

Seventeenth article of war:	
Losing accouterments	1
Losing arms	1
Losing clothing	2
Selling arms	1
Selling clothing	2
Twenty-first article of war: Disobeying superior officer	3
Twenty-fourth article of war: Disobeying noncommissioned officer quelling fray, etc.	1
Thirty-second article of war: Absence without leave	38
Thirty-third article of war: Failure to attend drill, roll call, etc.	5
Thirty-eighth article of war: Drunkenness on duty	15
Thirty-ninth article of war:	
Leaving post	9
Sleeping on post	5
Fortieth article of war: Quitting guard	8
Forty-seventh article of war: Desertion	86
Sixtieth article of war:	
Larceny	1
Presenting false and fraudulent claims	1
Wrongful disposition of property	1
Sixty-first article of war: Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman ..	1
Sixty-second article of war:	
Absence without leave not chargeable under thirty-second article	1
Abusing public animals	1
Allowing prisoners to escape through neglect	3
Assault	1
Assault upon noncommissioned officer	6
Assault with intent to kill	1
Attempting to dispose of clothing	1
Breach of arrest	3
Burglary	2
Carrying concealed weapons	1
Conduct causing arrest by civil authorities	2
Destroying public property	1
Disobeying commissioned officer	4
Disobeying noncommissioned officer	8

Sixty-second article of war—Continued.

Disgraceful conduct in declaring his sympathy with an anarchist orator.....	1
Disorderly conduct.....	1
Disposing of clothing.....	5
Drunk and disorderly.....	5
Drunkenness.....	2
Embezzlement.....	4
Escaping from guard or sentinel.....	1
Escaping from military prison.....	2
False statement.....	8
Forgery.....	1
Fraud at target practice.....	1
Fraudulent enlistment.....	49
Insubordinate conduct toward noncommissioned officer.....	4
Larceny.....	17
Neglect of duty.....	2
Permitting prisoners to obtain liquor.....	1
Striking noncommissioned officer.....	1
Suffering prisoners to escape willfully.....	1
Threatening noncommissioned officer.....	1
Threatening to do bodily harm.....	1
Using insulting and abusive language.....	2
Approved sentences of dishonorable discharge.....	130
Sentences of dishonorable discharge by reason of 5 or more previous convictions.....	4
Sentences of dishonorable discharge approved, but mitigated.....	4

Of the 86 men convicted of desertion, only 51 of them deserted from this department.

Inferior courts-martial.

	Garrison courts.			Summary courts.		
	Trials.	Acquittals.	Men tried.	Trials.	Acquittals.	Men tried.
In the Department of California.....	5	.....	5	2,288	57	1,567
Casually in department, on transports en route, etc.	4	.....	4	154	9	147

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The work of this department has been of the usual routine nature. Bids for supplies have generally been considered excessive and purchases consequently made in open market. For detailed information as to these transactions reference should be had to the annual report of the chief quartermaster of the department.

The question of the water supply at the Presidio of San Francisco continues to be a serious menace to the usefulness of that post and to the health of the troops stationed thereat.

Much difficulty has arisen from the problem of the water supply at Fort Barry, Cal., but it is believed that a solution has finally been reached by the utilization of water from a lagoon for flushing and kindred purposes.

Attention is again invited to the dilapidated condition as regards barracks and quarters of the Presidio of San Francisco and the depot of recruits and casuals. It is earnestly hoped that the existing state of affairs will be remedied at the earliest practicable moment. Fort McDowell is not mentioned in this connection, as it is under-

stood the War Department has prepared plans for the rebuilding of that post as a signal corps depot and station and its abandonment as an infantry station, for which it is in every way unsuited.

Electric lighting systems should be installed at all posts in this department where they do not now exist.

It is not believed that the transfer of all the water transportation in this harbor from the chief quartermaster of the department to the depot quartermaster, which transfer was ordered by the War Department without reference to these headquarters, was a wise move. The department commander has been placed continually in the position of having to ask as personal favors things relative to which he should be empowered to issue orders.

It is not believed that in the military establishment any officer should be compelled to ask as personal favors from other officers the facilities required to carry out orders received from higher authority. Owing to the exceedingly accommodating spirit shown by the present depot quartermaster in San Francisco and my own willingness to waive the rank and dignity supposed to appertain to the position of a general officer and department commander, there has been no friction and no injury to public interests; but the situation is one fraught with most disagreeable possibilities, dependent on changes of personnel in the officers occupying the positions of department commander and depot quartermaster.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The greater part of the subsistence stores consumed at the posts in this department has been forwarded by the purchasing commissary, San Francisco, on requisitions revised and consolidated monthly by the chief commissary of the department.

The quality of the articles supplied and the regularity of their shipment and delivery at the various posts have been entirely satisfactory.

Authority for local purchases by post commissaries has been granted in exceptional cases, and generally for perishable stores and where freight from San Francisco would make the price exceed that paid locally.

Fresh meat has been supplied by contract at all posts in the department, except Sequoia National Park, where purchases were made in open market, there being no competition.

The quality of fresh meat furnished at the various posts has been satisfactory.

Contracts for the current fiscal year have been made at prices somewhat lower than for the period covered by this report.

Fresh vegetables have been purchased locally at Forts Shafter and Rosecrans and the Presidio of Monterey, and have been forwarded to all other posts by calls made on the depot commissary, San Francisco, shipments being made semimonthly.

It is believed the new ration provided for by General Orders, No. 47, War Department, current series, will add considerably to the contentment of the enlisted men. That its cost is but trifling is shown by the fact that the approximate difference in the cost of the ration as issued in this department prior to May 1, 1908, the date

when the new ration became effective, and the cost of the ration for the month of May was 12 cents.

Reclamations have amounted to but \$16.13, and have usually been due to breakage.

The post bakeries in this department are generally in good condition and their product excellent.

The training school for bakers and cooks at the Presidio of San Francisco has continued in successful operation during the year. The following table shows the number of instructors and students on duty at this school for the year:

BAKERS.

Number of students reporting assigned as bakers:	
From Department of California.....	38
From Department of the Columbia.....	18
Total number reported for duty.....	56

COOKS.

Number of students reporting assigned as cooks:	
From Department of California.....	51
From Department of the Columbia.....	21
From Hospital Corps, both departments.....	25
Total number reported for duty.....	97

Number who graduated:	
From Department of California, bakers.....	17
From Department of California, cooks.....	30
From Department of the Columbia, bakers.....	12
From Department of the Columbia, cooks.....	21
Number of different assistant instructors:	
From Department of California.....	12
From Department of the Columbia.....	2

Present personnel of school:	
Officers.....	1
Acting first sergeant.....	1
Assistant instructors.....	5
Student bakers.....	16
Student cooks.....	20
Aggregate.....	43

During the year the organizations have been so depleted in strength that only about half the number that could have received instruction have been sent to the school. In too many cases proper care has not been used by company commanders in the selection of enlisted men to take the course.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The general health of the troops in the department has remained excellent, there having been no epidemics and cases of sickness that could be charged to insanitary conditions at any of the various posts. A threatened epidemic of bubonic plague in the city of San Francisco caused steps to be taken to destroy the rats infecting the posts adjacent thereto. The danger is now considered to have passed, at least for the time being.

UNITED STATES ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL.

This institution has continued to be administered in a highly satisfactory manner. There are now under construction thereat quarters for two captains and four lieutenants, as well as additions to the power plant and two oil-storage tanks.

The following table shows the number of patients from various sources and the disposition thereof:

Numerical statement of admissions and disposition of patents.

	From Philippine Islands.	From United States.	Total.
Remaining in hospital June 30, 1907	55	140	195
Admissions:			
For gunshot wounds	7	15	
Diarrhea and dysentery	42	88	
Malarial fevers	7	17	
Typhoid fever	3	13	
Rheumatic affections	9	61	
Veneral diseases	21	401	
Injuries	26	285	
Insanity	39	23	
Alcoholism	2	81	
All other causes	209	982	
Total admissions during fiscal year	365	1,896	2,261
Total admissions to be accounted for	420	2,036	2,456
Dispositions:			
Total returned to duty	120	1,156	
Deaths	8	48	
Discharged for disability	74	62	
Discharged by expiration of service	30	20	
Deserted	1	13	
Transferred to Government Hospital for Insane	11	7	
Transferred to Hot Springs, Ark	4	5	
Transferred to Fort Bayard, N. Mex	67	7	
Transferred to other hospitals	0	2	
Otherwise disposed of	44	515	
Total dispositions during fiscal year	359	1,838	2,197
Remaining in hospital June 30, 1908	61	198	259

Number of insane patients admitted and disposition thereof:

Admissions—	
Remaining June 30, 1907	4
From Philippine Islands	39
From United States	23
Total	66
Disposition—	
To Government Hospital for Insane, Washington, D. C.	18
Returned to duty	7
Discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability	5
Discharged by order	0
Improved and left hospital	6
Deserted	2
Remaining June 30, 1908	28
Total	66

PAY DEPARTMENT.

Troops at Fort Rosecrans, Yosemite National Park, and Sequoia National Park, Cal., and at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, have been paid in currency shipped by express, and those at all other posts by paymasters in person.

Troops en route to the Philippines have been paid just before embarkation, and troops returning therefrom when desired by regimental or other commanders.

All payments have been made promptly with the exception that there were some unavoidable delays in the first payment after the going into effect of the new pay schedule.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The new magazine rifles, caliber .30, model 1903, chambered for 1906 ammunition, have been issued to all troops in this command. While this is in general an excellent weapon, undoubtedly by far the best we have ever had, a number of minor defects have been developed in target practice. For detailed information relative to these defects reference should be had to the annual report of the chief ordnance officer of the department.

Much work has been done during the year under supervision of the chief ordnance officer in converting mortar carriages and in remedying certain defects in the armament of the seacoast batteries.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

All inspections required have been made by the inspector-general of the department, with the exception of those at the Presidio of Monterey, Fort Rosecrans, San Diego Barracks, and the recruiting office at Los Angeles, which were omitted on account of lack of mileage, and of four transports which arrived while this officer was absent on other duty.

Owing to exceptional conditions in this department the work to be done by an inspector is more than should be expected of any one officer, however diligent.

INVENTORY AND INSPECTION REPORTS.

Two hundred and thirty-three lots of property were acted upon by the inspecting officers of the department, and 26 lots by special inspectors, as follows:

Quartermaster's property, 114 reports.....	\$143, 700
Ordnance and ordnance stores, 75 reports.....	16, 700
Subsistence property, 9 reports.....	600
Engineer property, 5 reports.....	100
Public animals, 28 reports.....	15, 600
Medical property, 22 reports.....	13, 800
Signal property, 4 reports.....	13, 000
Public buildings, 2 reports.....	1, 000
Total, 259 reports.....	204, 500

CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

The principal work of this office during the year has been supervision of work on the progressive military map of the United States.

Owing to serious shortages of officers it was practicable to send but three into the field, and but two of these were able to accomplish material results.

These officers did entirely satisfactory work. In April, 1908, three officers were detailed to work along the coast line north of San Francisco. No accurate maps of this region being available, progress will be much slower than where Geological Survey quadrangles could be furnished for skeleton maps.

During the year office work was done on all the quadrangles of the progressive military map, connected and filled out in the field, and copies sent to the War Department and Geological Survey.

Tracings were made of several of the reservations in the department, of Angel Island, and of a small portion of the water front at Fort Mason and vicinity, showing the state harbor lines.

Enlargements and tracings were made of the Geological Survey maps of both the northern and southern peninsulas of San Francisco Bay.

The engineer troops in the department were employed at various times in laying out the land-defense lines of the harbors of San Francisco and San Diego.

CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

There have been supplied as a part of the equipment of Company E, Signal Corps, two wireless sets, complete, each so condensed that it can be carried on three pack mules. In addition to these two sets, there have been supplied for use in the artillery district of San Francisco two more sets of this type. One set will be used on the tug *Harris* and the other at Fort Baker for use in communicating with this tug during target practice.

Forty-two thousand seven hundred and fifty-five government messages were handled during the year.

Cash receipts, commercial messages.....	\$2, 116. 43
Value of commercial messages received.....	2, 101. 08
Value of government messages sent.....	3, 403. 46
Value of government messages received.....	3, 558. 53

The school of musketry at the Presidio of Monterey has done excellent work during the year, the commanding officer, Maj. George W. McIver, Twentieth Infantry, having shown great zeal and efficiency.

Under the present conditions but two departments, those of California and of the Columbia, receive the benefits of this school, and it is therefore recommended that it be made more national in its scope, which can best be accomplished by locating at one of the large posts in the Middle West to which student officers and men can be sent from the various geographical departments within the limits of the United States without making too heavy a draft on the mileage and transportation appropriations.

The provisions of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, August 27, 1907, have been carried out in this command, and no change in that order is recommended at present, except that as much modification as may be deemed practicable be made in the equipment required to be carried by the soldier during skirmish fire with a view to lessening the weight and bulk thereof.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

It is most earnestly to be hoped that the War Department will succeed in its efforts to obtain an additional number of officers to fill the places of those on detached duty from their organizations. This is believed to be a vital question, greatly affecting the efficiency of the army.

The beneficent results anticipated from recent legislation increasing the pay of the army are already becoming apparent. Company commanders report that a much larger proportion of desirable men are reenlisting than was formerly the case, and that many former soldiers are returning to the service.

The feeling akin to hopelessness that has hung over the army since the close of active operations in the Philippine Islands has given way to a better spirit, and, as a result of greater contentment, there is an increased interest in the performance of duty and consequently in efficiency. Our officers no longer feel that they have been set to making brick without straw.

Very respectfully,

FREDERICK FUNSTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.



REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., September 1, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the Department of the Columbia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908:

The department has been under the command of three different department commanders during the year, and the personnel of department headquarters has changed to considerable extent.

The strength of the command, present and absent, June 30, 1908, was as follows:

	Cav- alry.	Artillery.		Infan- try.	Corps of Engi- neers.	Signal Corps.	Hos- pital Corps.	Re- cruits.	Staff.	Total.
		Coast.	Field.							
Officers.....	{ Present.. 17	37	12	133	4	4			25	232
	{ Absent.. 17	2	2	41	1				4	67
Enlisted men ..	{ Present.. 891	1,130	273	2,722	136	821	168	32	47	5,220
	{ Absent.. 8	24	7	49	10		8	1		102
Aggregate										5,621

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL JULY 1, 1907, TO JUNE 30, 1908.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

<i>Gain.</i>		<i>Loss.</i>	
By promotion or appointment..	31	Resigned.....	1
By transfer.....	165	Dismissed.....	1
		Transferred or retired.....	134
Total.....	196	Total.....	136

ENLISTED MEN.

<i>Gain.</i>		<i>Loss.</i>	
Enlisted	3,382	Discharged:	
Reenlisted	881	Expiration of service.....	976
By transfer.....	2,287	For disability.....	57
From desertion.....	178	By sentence general court- martial.....	169
		By order.....	573
		Retired.....	10
		Transferred.....	2,408
		Died:	
		Of disease.....	16
		Accident.....	2
		Drowned	2
		Suicide	3
		Murder or homicide.....	2
		Deserted.....	458
Total	6,728	Total.....	4,676

The strength of the department, present and absent, June 30, 1907, was 239 officers and 3,270 enlisted men.

The strength of the department, present and absent, June 30, 1908, was 299 officers and 5,322 enlisted men.

Changes and movements of troops from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

CHANGES OF STATION.

Station.	Troops.	Remarks.
Fort Casey, Wash.....	One hundred and forty-ninth Company, Coast Artillery Corps.	Organized at post Aug. 1, 1907, by transfer of 32 enlisted men from Sixty-third Company, Coast Artillery Corps.
Fort Davis, Alaska	Company K, Tenth Infantry; 1 officer, 69 enlisted men. Companies H and I, Twenty-second Infantry. Companies H and K, Tenth Infantry.	Arrived at post July 15, 1907, from Honolulu, H. I. En route to take station at post from Department of California. Under orders to leave post for station at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
Fort Egbert, Alaska.....	Company M, Tenth Infantry; 2 officers, 65 enlisted men. Companies G and M, Twenty-second Infantry. Companies B and M, Tenth Infantry.	Arrived at post July 31, 1907, from Honolulu, H. I. En route to take station at post from Department of California. Under orders to leave post for station at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
Fort Flagler, Wash.....	One hundred and sixth Company, Coast Artillery Corps; 2 officers, 48 enlisted men. Company B, First Battalion of Engineers; 2 officers, 78 enlisted men.	Left post Nov. 1, 1907, for Fort Worden, Wash. Arrived at post Nov. 2, 1907, from Fort Mason, Cal. Left post May 29, 1908, for Vancouver Barracks, Wash.
Fort Gibbon, Alaska	Companies C and D, Twenty-second Infantry. Companies C and D, Tenth Infantry.	En route to take station at post from Department of California. Under orders to leave post for station at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
Fort Lawton, Wash.....	Band, Third Infantry; 26 enlisted men.	Left post Apr. 10, 1908, for temporary duty at Fort Wright, Wash.; returned to post May 11, 1908.
Fort Liscum, Alaska.....	Company L, Tenth Infantry; 4 officers, 69 enlisted men. Companies K and L, Twenty-second Infantry. Companies A and L, Tenth Infantry.	Arrived at post July 7, 1907, from Honolulu, H. I. En route to take station at post from Department of California. Under orders to leave post for station at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
Fort St. Michael, Alaska	Company I, Tenth Infantry; 3 officers, 70 enlisted men. Companies B and E, Twenty-second Infantry. Companies G and I, Tenth Infantry.	Arrived at post July 17, 1907, from Honolulu, H. I. En route to take station at post from Department of California. Under orders to leave post for station at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
Vancouver Barracks, Wash..	Battery A, Fourth Field Artillery; 1 officer, 73 enlisted men. Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Fourteenth Infantry; 31 officers, 791 enlisted men. Company B, First Battalion of Engineers; 2 officers, 75 enlisted men. First Infantry; 26 officers, 509 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 20, 1907, from Philippine Islands, via San Francisco, Cal. Left post Jan. 2, 1908, for San Francisco, Cal., en route to the Philippine Islands. Arrived at post May 30, 1908, from Fort Flagler, Wash.
Fort Ward, Wash.....	One hundred and fiftieth Company, Coast Artillery Corps; 1 officer, 31 enlisted men.	Arrived at post June 19, 1908, from Philippine Islands. Arrived at post Sept. 3, 1907, from Fort Worden, Wash. Assigned to permanent station at post Oct. 19, 1907.
Fort William H. Seward, Alaska.	Company A, Twenty-second Infantry; 2 officers, 58 enlisted men. Company E, Tenth Infantry; 4 officers, 31 enlisted men. Headquarters, band, and Company F, Twenty-second Infantry; 7 officers, 86 enlisted men. Headquarters, band, and Company F, Tenth Infantry; 8 officers, 60 enlisted men.	Arrived at post May 12, 1908, from Department of California. Left post May 18, 1908, for Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind. Arrived at post June 28, 1908, from Department of California. Left post June 28, 1908, en route to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
Fort Worden, Wash.....	One hundred and fiftieth Company, Coast Artillery Corps.	Organized at post Aug. 1, 1907, by transfer of 27 enlisted men from Sixty-second Company, Coast Artillery Corps. Left post Sept. 3, 1907, for duty at Fort Ward, Wash. Assigned to permanent station at Fort Ward Oct. 19, 1907.

Changes and movements of troops from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908—Con.

CHANGES OF STATION—Continued.

Station.	Troops.	Remarks.
Fort Worden, Wash	One hundred and sixth Company, Coast Artillery Corps: 2 officers, 48 enlisted men.	Arrived at post Nov. 1, 1907, from Fort Flagler, Wash.
Fort George Wright, Wash...	Band, Third Infantry: 26 enlisted men.	Arrived at post Apr. 11, 1908, from Fort Lawton, Wash., for temporary duty; left post May 11, 1908, for Fort Lawton.

FIELD SERVICE.

Boise Barracks, Idaho.....	Troop K, Fourteenth Cavalry; 2 officers, 35 enlisted men.	Left post Aug. 3, 1907, by marching to go into camp with Idaho National Guard, near St. Anthony, Idaho, from Aug. 19 to 29, 1907; returned to post Oct. 6, 1907.
	Troop L, Fourteenth Cavalry; 1 officer, 32 enlisted men.	Left post Oct. 15, 1907, on annual practice march and field training, returned to post Nov. 4, 1907.
Fort Lawton, Wash.....	Companies E and F, Third Infantry; 4 officers, 68 enlisted men.	Left target range, Hillhurst, Wash., July 9, 1907, and rejoined post July 12, 1907.
	Companies E, F, and G, Third Infantry; 6 officers, 82 enlisted men.	Left post Sept. 11, 1907, on annual practice march and field training; returned to post Oct. 1, 1907.
	Companies G and H, Third Infantry; 8 officers, 118 enlisted men.	Left post Apr. 25, 1908, for target range, Hillhurst, Wash.; arrived at target range Apr. 27, 1908; left target range June 4, 1908, and rejoined post same date.
	Companies E and F, Third Infantry; 6 officers, 94 enlisted men.	Left post June 4, 1908, for target range, Hillhurst, Wash.; arrived at target range same date.
Fort Liscum, Alaska.....	Company A, Tenth Infantry; 1 officer, 23 enlisted men.	Left post Sept. 29, 1907, for Keystone Military Reservation to preserve order between men working on two railroad grades through Keystone Canyon and to preserve the United States military telegraph lines, returned to post Oct. 1, 1907.
Fort William H. Seward, Alaska.	Company F, Tenth Infantry; 2 officers, 46 enlisted men.	Left post Mar. 27, 1908, for Treadwell, Alaska, for duty in connection with strike of miners at that place; returned to post May 15, 1908.
Vancouver Barracks, Wash.	Companies I, K, L, and M, Fourteenth Infantry; 6 officers, 121 enlisted men.	Left post Aug. 8, 1907, on annual practice march and field training, returned to post Aug. 28, 1907.
	Headquarters and Batteries A and B, Fourth Field Artillery: 10 officers, 144 enlisted men.	Left post Aug. 18, 1907, on annual practice march and field training; returned to post Sept. 10, 1907.
	Headquarters and Companies A, B, C, D, F, G, and H, Fourteenth Infantry; 10 officers, 229 enlisted men.	Left post Sept. 3, 1907, on annual practice march and field training; returned to post Sept. 23, 1907.
	Company B, First Battalion of Engineers; 1 officer, 71 enlisted men.	Left post June 20, 1908, for camp of instruction at American Lake, Wash., in connection with map making and laying out camp sites.
Fort Walla Walla, Wash....	Troops A and C, Fourteenth Cavalry; 5 officers, 55 enlisted men.	Left post Aug. 10, 1907, on annual practice march and field training, returned to post Aug. 30, 1907.
	Headquarters, band, and Troops B and D, Fourteenth Cavalry; 5 officers, 86 enlisted men.	Left post Sept. 10, 1907, on annual practice march and field training; returned to post Sept. 30, 1907.
Fort George Wright, Wash..	First and Third Battalions, Third Infantry; 12 officers, 106 enlisted men.	Left post Sept. 7, 1907, on annual practice march and field training, returned to post Sept. 27, 1907.

Changes and movements of troops from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908—Con.

MILITIA.

Station.	Troops.	Remarks.
Fort Casey, Wash.	Field, staff, and Companies C, E, and H, Second Regiment, detachment Signal Corps and Hospital Corps, Washington National Guard; 12 officers, 158 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 5, 1907, to participate in joint army and militia coast defense exercises; left post July 13, 1907, for home stations.
Fort Columbia, Wash.	Battalion staff and Companies B and M, Third Regiment, and detachment Hospital Corps, Oregon National Guard; 8 officers, 74 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 6, 1907, to participate in joint army and militia coast defense exercises; left post July 15, 1907, for home stations.
Fort Flagler, Wash.	Field, staff, and Companies A, F, G, and M, Second Regiment, detachment Signal Corps and Hospital Corps, Washington National Guard; 14 officers, 194 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 4, 1907, to participate in joint army and militia coast defense exercises; left post July 13, 1907, for home stations.
Fort Stevens, Oreg.	Field, staff, and Companies A, C, and K, Third Regiment; Companies A and C, First Separate Battalion, and detachment Hospital Corps, Oregon National Guard; 17 officers, 188 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 6, 1907, to participate in joint army and militia coast defense exercises; left post July 15, 1907, for home stations.
Fort Worden, Wash.	Field, staff, and Companies B, D, K, and L, Second Regiment, detachment Signal Corps and Hospital Corps, Washington National Guard; 20 officers, 180 enlisted men.	Arrived at post July 4, 1907, to participate in joint army and militia coast defense exercises; left post July 13, 1907, for home stations.
Fort George Wright, Wash. .	Companies C, E, G, and H, Second Infantry, Idaho National Guard; 16 officers, 161 enlisted men.	Arrived at post June 22, 1908, for target practice; left post July 2, 1908, for home stations.

The clerks in the adjutant-general's office are nine in number, and perform clerical work for that department; also for the chief surgeon, judge-advocate, inspector-general, chief of staff, inspector small-arms practice, ordnance officer, and department artillery officer.

It was found necessary to detail two enlisted men for duty as clerks. It is recommended that another clerk be furnished so that one of these men can be dispensed with.

PRACTICAL TRAINING.

In order to carry out the provisions of General Orders, No. 177, 1907, War Department (August 27, 1907), General Order, No. 54, 1907, these headquarters, was issued, and reports received from various post commanders indicate that so far it has operated to the satisfaction of all concerned. The reduction in the number of practice marches and field days has eliminated the cause of much complaint. According to company commanders one full day in each week for practical instruction meets with approval.

The workings of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, have been very satisfactory, but in my opinion the rubber poncho should be dropped from the field kit and the housewife should be transferred from the field kit to the surplus kit.

MACHINE GUNS AND MOUNTED ORDERLIES.

That the present organization of machine-gun platoons is unsatisfactory is recognized by all concerned. The simplest method of securing a suitable organization for machine guns would be to take a company from each regiment and make a machine-gun company out

of it, and attach it to regimental headquarters. There should be 6 guns. Therefore, this company should have at least 90 men in it, in order to provide for cooks, trumpeters, blacksmiths, saddlers, supernumeraries, etc. Each platoon should be complete in itself. If necessary legislation can be had, it would be far better to provide an additional company, including officers, for each regiment, and thus avoid reducing the strength of one of the battalions to three companies. This would be a reasonable way to increase the strength of the army by 135 officers and 4,000 men.

The mounted orderlies of an infantry regiment serving at headquarters of the regiment might profitably be attached to the machine-gun company for instruction and administrative purposes. Special instructions have been given in this department for the detail of suitable officers to be selected for the instruction of mounted orderlies in equitation, and duties as messengers, scouts, small patrols, observers, and the care and handling of led horses. These mounted men will be of inestimable value to an infantry regiment in time of war, provided they have received due instruction in preparation for duty at that time. There are six other men in an infantry regiment who should be mounted. These are the regimental sergeant-major, quartermaster and commissary sergeants, and the three battalion sergeants-major. These are necessarily the most intelligent enlisted men in a regiment, and would be of great assistance in carrying important orders, etc. Moreover, they are men who must continue to work after the day's march is done, often long into the night, in getting out orders, supplies, etc., and therefore should not be required to march on foot and carry their packs.

SHORTAGE OF OFFICERS.

The scarcity of officers of infantry and cavalry is greatly to be deplored. In the coming maneuvers at American Lake it is not believed that there will be an average of one officer to a company. All absentees are duly accounted for and on legitimate duty in various capacities both within and without the department. A partial remedy for this would result if officers be not detached during the summer months for duty at the school of musketry or in military map making. But as maps can not be made profitably in this climate except from May to October, and as certain topographical information is badly needed just now, this is the last work from which officers should be withdrawn. Several officers are absent during more or less of the entire summer in various capacities at the different rifle competitions. It is my opinion that these competitions should not be held the same year as the maneuvers, but should alternate therewith. Once in two years is believed to be often enough to hold these contests, thus releasing a great many officers and men who would be available for the summer camps, which are equally if not more important than these rifle competitions. Officers who are the best shots are not necessarily the best instructors in target practice. Rifle contests are no longer necessary to keep up the interest of the soldier in the use and care of his rifle. Increased pay for good marksmanship has solved that problem, and there is no longer the slightest difficulty in inducing the soldier to follow instructions and to become a good shot.

It is particularly important that the regiment stationed in Alaska should have a full complement of officers present for duty. There are six posts in Alaska, each garrisoned by two companies of infantry. The four northern or Yukon posts are practically inaccessible for eight months of the year, and there is continual trouble in finding enough available officers at each post for the routine duty, including examining boards and general courts-martial. Serious breaches of discipline must be tried by inferior courts, for the officer preferring the charges is not available, and the accused should have counsel, etc. The loneliness at an isolated Alaskan post should also be taken into consideration, although this must be experienced in order that it may be appreciated.

In this department alone there were 38 officers absent from their stations on June 30, due to orders over which the department commander had no control. This number of absentees does not include officers belonging to the coast artillery, those absent on leave, absent sick, or detached from their post for duty in the department by department orders. Efficiency and discipline were materially affected by the absence of so many officers.

THEORETICAL INSTRUCTION.

The various schools have been under the immediate charge of Major Burnham, chief of staff of the department.

All schools were conducted in accordance with General Order No. 47, 1907, Department of the Columbia, which was founded on the following orders from the War Department: General Orders, Nos. 124 and 125, and Circular, No. 38, all of 1905. None of the schools were personally inspected either by myself or a staff officer. An application for the chief of staff to make these inspections last February, when all of the schools were in operation, was disapproved at the War Department. The reports of post commanders indicate that all schools were conducted as prescribed, and that satisfactory progress was made.

The common English branches were taught in the schools for children and enlisted men. The following subjects were partially covered by recitations in all of the schools for noncommissioned officers and selected privates: Drill regulations, army regulations, small-arms firing regulations. In addition, at a number of posts lectures were delivered on minor tactics, field engineering, military topography, military hygiene, and hippology.

The garrison schools for officers were conducted as prescribed. There were 52 officers under instruction, all but 3 of whom were found proficient: 20 officers were employed as instructors and 45 were engaged in postgraduate work. The work of one officer of the latter class at each post was confined to writing a historical sketch of the post. All of these papers contained valuable and interesting military information. The coming year it is proposed to have these histories revised and enlarged and made uniform in style, and for this purpose a list of headings and subheads will be sent to the writers, giving them a clear idea of the amount and kind of information desired.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following recommendations of the chief of staff are approved:

That hereafter examination questions for garrison schools be sent so as to arrive here on or before the 1st of October, to insure their arrival at posts in Alaska before the date set for the first examination; that the postgraduate course, garrison school, be laid down in detail by the War Department, so that the work shall be the same throughout the army; that a three years' course of study be prescribed by the War Department for noncommissioned officers' schools, attention being invited to paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, General Orders, No. 47, 1907, these headquarters; that appointments to the grade of corporal be made after competitive examination by a board of officers composed of the battalion commander, the company commander, and one other officer. Any private with a year's service should be eligible, the theoretical examination being confined to parts of the drill regulations, guard manual, firing regulations, etc. The board should then examine into the probable efficiency and military aptitude of the applicant as shown by his past record, recommendations of company and other officers under whom he has served. The marks should be on the scale of 100, the theoretical portion being given a weight of 50, and probable efficiency, etc., 50. The promotion from corporal to sergeant to be by seniority in each company after examination, similar to the competitive examination already described. The appointment of first sergeants, company quartermaster-sergeants, cooks, battalion sergeants-major, color sergeants, and bandsmen to be as now provided by regulations. The appointment of regimental sergeants-major, quartermaster and commissary sergeants to be appointed from any of the sergeants of the regiment after passing satisfactory competitive examinations as to clerical ability, probable efficiency, etc. The board in this case should have a regimental staff officer on it in place of the company commander, as suggested for company boards. There now exists no system governing these promotions. There are restrictions, of course, such that a private can not be made a first sergeant, etc., but, strange to note, a private can be made a sergeant-major by the stroke of a pen. There is no carefully thought out system of promotion for noncommissioned officers. In one regiment it is done in one way, in the next in another, and even in the same regiment there may be a dozen ways of appointing and promoting noncommissioned officers, depending on the ideas of individual company commanders. In the interest of fairness and discipline, and to increase the efficiency of the army, a uniform system of promotion should be clearly defined by the War Department.

ORGANIZED MILITIA.

The annual inspections prescribed as necessary to carry out the provisions of section 14, act of January 21, 1903, were made in the prescribed manner, and apparently with thoroughness, the results being shown in the reports forwarded to the War Department. The inspections were made as follows: Idaho, by Lieut. Col. C. A. Varnum, U. S. Army, retired, between January 18 and February 24, 1908. Strength was not up to standard, clothing and equipment was not sufficient. General efficiency—material excellent, but drill and instruction as soldiers very limited. Oregon, by Col. James Jackson, U. S. Army, retired, between January 7 and February 27, 1908. Strength was up to standard, and clothing and equipment sufficient. General efficiency good, but need field work. Washington, by Capt. John Kinzie, U. S. Army, retired, between February 2 and 14, 1908. Strength slightly below standard; clothing and equipment sufficient. General efficiency good.

The reports from Oregon indicate that the men are examined physically the same as in the regular service. Idaho has adopted the physical standard of the United States Army, but so far the men of only

two companies have been examined. The report from Washington makes no mention of physical examination, but it states the physical appearance of all men to be excellent.

In looking over the returns of property on hand in the different States, all of them except Oregon seem to be more or less lacking in equipment for the medical department, regimental hospital, etc. Intrenching tools, wire cutters, etc., have not yet been furnished to the national guard of any of the States.

The Second Regiment and detachments of the Signal and Hospital Corps, National Guard of Washington, took part in the joint exercises of the coast artillery, district of Puget Sound, from July 4 to 14, 1907. Full report of this by the artillery district commander, dated July 20, 1907, was forwarded to the War Department.

Seven companies of the Third Infantry, Oregon National Guard, took part in the joint army and militia coast defense exercise in artillery district of the Columbia from the 5th to the 15th of July, 1907. Full report of this by the artillery district commander, dated July 31, 1907, was forwarded to the War Department.

The above-mentioned reports, together with the comments of General Greeley, who was then commanding the department, and by Major Hawthorne, department artillery officer, have since been incorporated in a compilation by the Chief of Artillery and published by the War Department in 1908 (Document No. 313, office of the Chief of Staff).

COAST ARTILLERY DISTRICTS.

On August 19, 1907, Maj. Harry L. Hawthorne, Coast Artillery Corps, assumed the duties of department artillery officer. As this office had not been represented until that date there were no records pertaining to that office until that time. Complete data have been accumulated as to guns, carriages, fire-control equipment, search-light plants, batteries, electrical installation, position finding, and submarine equipment. All maps, blueprints, and drawings connected with the harbors, emplacements, guns, carriages, etc., obtainable from posts and engineer officers at Portland and Seattle are on file, though not yet complete. Major Hawthorne has officially visited the artillery districts of Puget Sound and of the Columbia, and made himself familiar, as far as the length of these visits would allow, with the "methods of training, the thoroughness of instruction, and the care and efficiency of coast artillery guns."

Lists and maps showing the location of all Signal Corps submarine cables are on hand. Lists of vessels for transportation of troops, ammunition, and supplies have not yet been made, but such data will be on hand when the correspondence on these matters is completed. A file of range tables and ballistic data has been accumulated.

The defensive plans covering the two artillery districts have been studied and partly embodied in reports already made and on file. The elaboration of these will be part of the postgraduate course for the coming school season, and this method should be pursued in future years until every possible defensive phase has been studied and made of record.

The militia forces adjacent to the districts have been a disappointment so far as concerns their active interest in the organization of the coast artillery reserve. The department artillery officer has made especial efforts to enlist the attention of the Oregon Guard, but so far has met with no success. It may be possible during the coming year, when he can come into more intimate contact with these forces, to lay the foundation for some activity among them in this direction.

ARTILLERY DISTRICT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Due to the weather, the absence of certain parts of gun carriages undergoing repair, and the presence of shipping in the field of fire, the second artillery practice was not held in this district. The month of this practice fell in December, due to the lateness of the first practice. Because of serious climatic interferences preliminary, battery, and fire-command subcaliber practice was held at Fort Columbia and Fort Stevens in July, August, and December, and appear to have been conducted in accordance with regulations. There was nothing especially noteworthy in the scores made.

ARTILLERY DISTRICT OF PUGET SOUND.

The subcaliber practice was conducted in July, September, October, and December, and appears to conform to the requirements of regulations. Service fire-command practice was conducted during December, 1907, and January, 1908. The perfect score made by Battery Worth, commanded by Capt. G. Sevier, Coast Artillery Corps, is proof of the excellent service of guns and fire-control equipment.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

EQUIPMENT OF FIELD ARMY.

1. Each arm of the service, engineers, field artillery, cavalry, infantry, and Philippine Scouts, should have a board composed of officers of long and recent service with troops to select its equipment and make such changes as may be necessary to obtain the greatest efficiency, as at present time the equipment of the infantry soldier is such that most of it would be thrown away in time of war, and the marching capacity is reduced from about 20 miles or more per day to about 12 or less. The American infantry soldier is supposed to carry his equipment in a way different from the soldiers of any other army in the world, with most of it dangling around his legs, and all carried at variance with the experience of hunters, explorers, miners, trappers, backwoodsmen, lumbermen, and the soldiers of other armies.

While the principal fighting arm is hampered and disabled as far as practicable, the other arms also are sufferers from selections made by officers of different arms, or by men of their own branch, who, while excellent theorists, know little of actual field conditions, as the practical soldiers are rarely chosen for such work. The cavalry still carries the picket pin because it was needed years ago, and other items could be named that an up-to-date field cavalryman knows are worthless, and so of the field artillery and especially the engineers, who are equipped as if infantry and not as engineers.

The board for infantry equipment should only be composed of infantry officers of long and recent field experience, with one ordnance officer as an expert in his line. The cavalry board should be composed only of cavalry officers and one ordnance officer, and so of the field artillery, engineers, and scouts; no one outside of branch of service being upon the boards except one officer of the ordnance upon each.

The fighting man to-day in the infantry carries a roll which in a hot climate soon tires him and interferes seriously with his breathing. It contains a poncho which weighs from 5 to 6 pounds, is most expensive (\$4.32), and perfectly worthless; the blanket is twice as bulky and heavy as necessary; same warmth could be secured at one-half the weight, but cost would be a little more, and if shelterhalf were dipped into a bath of turpentine and paraffin its weight might be increased 3 or 4 ounces, but it would be waterproof. Additional weight given shelterhalf can be counterbalanced by transferring housewife from field kit to surplus kit, and as we did without it for over one hundred years no great harm will be done, especially as it will still be part of service kit. What is left of roll, together with haversack or a pack for rations and canteen, should then be carried like other armies carry theirs, upon the back. Hundreds of thousands of dollars would be saved in a campaign because packs would be carried, the efficiency and marching capacity nearly doubled, and discipline vastly improved, because orders would be obeyed, whereas to-day the American, who is a reasoning human being, being directed to carry what he knows is not what it should be, and with a load flopping against his legs, wet at every crossing of a stream and interfering with his marching, throws it away, when if he only had what he knew was absolutely necessary, and carried as experience shows is best, would never part with it.

Unless, however, these boards are selected with care they will accomplish nothing, for frequently officers are selected who have only a general idea of what is expected of them, and some of these officers have been known to say, "I don't know why I was selected," etc. Because an officer wears a white, or yellow, or a red stripe upon his trousers is not sufficient to qualify him for the board of that branch whose uniform he wears, for many invaluable soldiers have not that experience, after years of service away from troops, that members of such boards require.

When a national board for the encouragement of rifle practice, an infantry weapon, did not have an infantry officer upon it for several years, it caused many officers to do a great deal of thinking.

If a mobile army, especially marching infantry, is desired, action is necessary.

ABSENTEEISM OF OFFICERS.

2. Never before in the history of our army has there been such a large proportion of officers absent from actual service with troops, due largely to formation of a General Staff Corps, to officers needed in our insular possessions and elsewhere; but this absenteeism is beginning to seriously affect the efficiency of the troops, as regiments going on service outside the limits of the United States proper rarely have 60 per cent present, although a full complement of officers is needed to keep up that standard which should be demanded of the

regular forces of the United States. Unless more officers are soon furnished so that companies, troops, and batteries shall at least have captains, the army must deteriorate. The lack of permanent, experienced organization commanders is responsible for most of the desertions in the army to-day. One organization in this department has had five commanders within the year, and this is practically a sample of what is going on throughout the service.

ORDERS AND AMENDMENTS OF ARMY REGULATIONS.

3. At nearly every post inspected it has been necessary to invite attention to orders or regulations which have not been strictly complied with, and the almost invariable answer is: "We have tried to keep up with them, but there are so many orders and so frequent amendments it is practically impossible to do so." This is partly because orders of to-day are not complete in themselves, so that in order to get a clear idea of a subject it is frequently necessary to look up many previous orders, which are not always available. Orders should be so complete as to require no references to prior orders.

Fewer and shorter orders, with amendments to the regulations only once a year (when there were amendments once a month it was better than at present), would result in more uniformity and a vast benefit to the service. If General Orders of 1907 and 1908 are compared with those of the years from 1861 to 1865, inclusive, when the army contained more than a million men, or those of 1898-99, when a period of war existed, it will be found that a time of peace does not result in brevity or reduce the number of orders. But whether deemed advisable or not to reduce the number of orders and amendments, it is recommended that all orders and amendments concerning only the coast artillery, and there are many, be printed upon tinted paper, in order that the field army may not have to look over them.

PEA-JACKET VERSUS OVERCOAT.

4. The pea-jacket is much lighter and less cumbersome than overcoat, which seriously interferes with marching. It is largely used by hunters, explorers, miners, and woodsmen in the far north, and has given satisfaction to troops in Alaska.

BRAID UPON OVERCOAT.

5. Now it is impossible to distinguish a second lieutenant from a private if overcoats are worn, and as in most foreign services the number of pieces of braid on sleeve indicates rank, commencing with one for a second lieutenant, it is believed that adoption of same plan in our service would put all officers upon a proper footing, accomplish result sought, and at the same time an officer would be given his proper title abroad instead of one lower than that to which entitled.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The usual routine work incident to the office of the judge-advocate has been performed during the year.

Two officers have been tried in the department, resulting in conviction and sentence of confinement to the limits of the post in both cases.

The number of trials under the seventeenth article of war for selling clothing during the past year forces the conclusion that the limit of punishment for such offense is not sufficiently great to deter the men from engaging in this traffic. It is recommended that this limit be removed altogether, thus leaving the punishment to the discretion of the court. It is believed that this is the only solution of this vexatious question. It would also place the enlisted offender in the same category as the civilian, and would do away with the existing disparity in possible punishments that may be imposed in the two classes of offenders.

It is again observed that court-martial proceedings continue to exhibit serious errors and mistakes, both upon the part of courts and trial judge-advocates, forcing the belief that the system of education in so far as instruction in the principles of military and elementary civil law is concerned is deficient; and judging from orders issued in other departments this condition is not confined to this department alone. The errors committed are those of law and procedure—errors that can hardly be attributed to indifference or carelessness.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

A light-draft river steamer has been built at Portland, Oreg., at a cost of \$29,900, for use on the Tanana River. This boat has been knocked down and shipped to Fort St. Michael, where it will be set up and sent to Fort Gibbon. It will have a capacity of 80 tons of freight and one company of infantry, with suitable cabin accommodations for officers. It is thought this boat can be set up and sent to Fort Gibbon in time to make at least one trip to the upper Tanana. The operations of this boat will largely decrease the expense of supplying telegraph stations on the Tanana River.

WATER SUPPLY.

Generally speaking, the water supply is satisfactory. The sum of \$72,380 has been allotted for a new system at Fort William H. Seward, Alaska. Contract has been let and work is under way. On May 31, 1908, the constructing quartermaster reported 18 per cent of the contract completed.

Six new caisson wells are being sunk at Fort Casey, Wash. These wells will be completed about the 7th of August, and will materially increase the supply of water at that post.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The following public buildings are under construction:

Fort Lawton.—Stable; cost, \$7,291.50; practically completed.

Fort Stevens.—Barracks (100 men); cost \$41,617; 84 per cent completed, except plumbing, 45 per cent; heating, 64 per cent; electric wiring, 44 per cent.

Boise Barracks.—Post exchange and gymnasium; cost, \$24,766; 1 per cent completed.

Valdez.—Storehouse and stable; cost, \$5,871.20.

Fort Flagler.—Building for bowling alleys; cost, \$3,843.

Fort St. Michael.—Shooting gallery; cost, \$665; double set non-commissioned officers' quarters; cost, \$2,191.06.

Fort Gibbon.—Barracks for Signal Corps (50 men); cost, \$9,328.35.

Fort Worden.—Barracks, 2 companies (218 men).

Fort Egbert.—Gymnasium; cost, \$16,000.

TARGET RANGE.

The target range at Fort Lawton, costing \$18,489.05, will be finished in November.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The stores supplied to posts in the department have been, as a rule, of excellent quality. The new ration seems to cover the defects complained of in the old ration, but it has not been in use long enough to be thoroughly tested.

The trail ration, used in Alaska, is reported as excellent in quality and sufficient in quantity, except as to the quantity of salt and soap, which should be increased.

The troops in the department have been called out twice to preserve order and protect property.

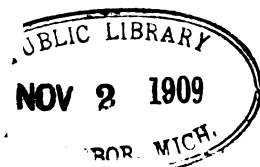
The first occurrence was on account of trouble between working parties of rival railroads on Keystone Military Reservation, Alaska, troops being sent from Fort Liscum.

The second occurrence was on account of a strike at Treadwell, Alaska, troops in this case being sent from Fort William H. Seward, Alaska. Troops were held in readiness to be sent to Fairbanks, in case of necessity, during the mining trouble there, but the civil authorities were able to preserve order.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The sickness in the department averages about the same as in former years, with no epidemics. Measles and mumps are being constantly introduced into the posts from the different recruit depots.

To attend to the absolutely necessary dental work of the officers and enlisted men serving in Alaska at stations removed from access to dentists requires seven or eight months of the dental surgeon's time every two years, provided ingoing troops have received full treatment prior to departure for that territory. This leaves but sixteen or seventeen months in two years to attend to about 4,000 men stationed in 11 posts in that part of the department inside of the limits of the United States proper. Some of the posts have not been visited for two years, and numerous requests are on file for the services of the dental surgeon at stations, which can not be met for months. The services of another dental surgeon are urgently needed, and it is recommended that this department be again supplied as in 1904 and 1905.



ENGINEER CORPS.

FIELD WORK.

In compliance with instructions dated February 4, 1908, a personal investigation relative to the right of way of the Spokane and Inland Empire Railway across the military reservation of Fort Wright, Wash., was made and report submitted.

Four officers of the department have been employed on reconnaissance in connection with the progressive military map of the United States in the territory embraced in the following quadrangles: Blaine, Chiwaukum, Chelen, Ellensburg, Glacier Peak, Mountain Home, Mount Stuart, Rocky Bar, Stilaguamish, and Spokane.

A reconnaissance of the roads and land approaches to the Puget Sound territory was made by First Lieut. E. D. Warfield, Thirtieth Infantry, First Lieut. R. C. Kirtland, Fourteenth Infantry, and Draftsman H. F. Strebe, and report submitted.

Company B, Battalion of Engineers, under the efficient direction of First Lieut. Chas. R. Pettis, Corps of Engineers, was engaged from November, 1907, to June, 1908, in making land-defense survey and preparing projects of land defense for the forts in Puget Sound and at the mouth of the Columbia River.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The usual routine of examination and approval of requisitions for ordnance and ordnance stores has been the principal duty of this office.

An entire issue of the new magazine rifles, caliber .30, model 1903, chambered for model 1906 ammunition, and the ammunition therefor, has been accomplished throughout the department, except that for the Tenth Infantry, now stationed in Alaska.

SIGNAL CORPS.

The telegraph lines in Alaska are being overhauled with a view of increasing their efficiency and diminishing the danger of interruption of service due to fires, falling trees, and landslides.

Wireless telegraph stations are being built at several of the posts, and will be in operation this fall. This will allow the abandonment of the telegraph line from Fort Egbert to Gulkana (279 miles), which is the most isolated and most expensive part of the Alaskan telegraph system to supply and maintain.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

Forts Columbia and Ward, Wash., are the only posts in the department without target range. The troops from Fort Columbia practice on the range at Fort Stevens, Oreg.; those from Fort Ward at Fort Worden, Wash.

The target range at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., has been condemned for firing beyond the 600-yard range, owing to danger from bullets falling upon and passing over the road north of the reservation. The troops at Vancouver Barracks were sent to Elliott's farm to

complete their practice last year, and arrangements have again been made for the rental of this farm for the practice of the troops now stationed at the post.

The new target range being constructed at Fort Lawton is not yet complete enough to permit of practice there this year, and the troops from that post have been sent to American Lake for their firing this season. The range at the post will probably be completed before next target practice season.

A new 300-yard range is being built at Fort Worden, Wash., and a new pistol range has been authorized for Vancouver Barracks and money set aside for its completion. There has also been authorized for Fort St. Michael, Alaska, a new covered target practice gallery, to cost \$1,500, funds for which have already been allotted.

The target range at Fort Walla Walla is in such condition that the commanding officer of that post considers it extremely dangerous for any firing with the rifle, and firing thereon has been abandoned. Repeated efforts have been made to locate a suitable rifle range in the vicinity of the post for the use of the troops stationed there. The proposed range in the Blue Mountains, located last year, was abandoned on account of some of the owners refusing to sell at a fair price. Another target range was located in the Wenaha Forest Reserve, about 28 miles from the post, but in view of the fact that all of the troops stationed at Fort Walla Walla are authorized, and are now under orders, to attend the maneuvers at American Lake, it was decided to have them hold their practice on the range at that point upon completion of the maneuvers, and nothing further toward securing the Wenaha range has been done.

There has been a large increase in the number of expert riflemen and sharpshooters during the past year, while there has been a decrease in the lower grades. The following statement shows the numbers in each grade and the total firing for the years 1906 and 1907:

	Expert rifle- men.	Sharp- shoot- ers.	Marks- men.	First class.	Second class.	Third class.	Total firing.	Not firing.
1907	127	242	231	357	809	251	1,517	22
1906	63	177	355	482	424	373	1,874	41

Very respectfully,

DAN'L H. BRUSH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.



REPORT PHILIPPINES DIVISION.

REPORT PHILIPPINES DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINES DIVISION,
Manila, February 20, 1908.

SIR: The following report for the Philippines Division for the period ending February 20, 1908, is respectfully submitted:

REGULAR GARRISON.

Regiments of infantry.....	9
Regiments of cavalry.....	4
Field batteries.....	3
Mountain batteries.....	2
Company coast artillery.....	1
Companies of engineers.....	2
Company Signal Corps.....	1
Staff sergeants and Hospital Corps.....	--
Companies Philippine Scouts.....	50

The strength of the garrison of the Philippine Islands on February 20, 1908, present and absent, was—

Officers.....	1, 025
Enlisted men (subject to minor corrections).....	16, 400
Total.....	17, 425

There are no scout companies on duty with the civil government.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

A general condition of peace exists throughout the Philippine Islands.

DEPARTMENT OF LUZON.

There have been no disturbances of consequence during the period covered by this report.

McKinley.—It is especially important that the large tract of land adjoining the Fort William McKinley Reservation be purchased, as without this tract this large brigade post will be without any sufficient drill ground for the proper instruction of troops. The land is rapidly increasing in value and should be purchased this year without fail, as it will be impossible to again secure an option on terms anywhere near as favorable as the existing ones. This tract will cost about \$180,000.

Stotsenburg.—The civil government has agreed to the setting aside for military purposes of a large tract of public land at Camp Stotsenburg, adjacent to the reservation. This land has been carefully gone

over by the agricultural expert of the Commission, and he has reported that it has little or no value for agricultural purposes on account of the poor soil. It is very well watered, rolling, and furnishes an ideal site for camps of instruction. The cost will be very small, as there are few occupants and very little of the land is under cultivation. The acquisition of this land is very important, as it will secure to the army a splendid tract of ground for the instruction of large bodies of troops. The papers, duly prepared, have gone forward for the action of the President. This post will require extensive repairs in the immediate future, also some new buildings. Water for all use, except drinking, should be brought in from the Bamban River on the lines already indicated as soon as funds are available.

Cuartel de España, Manila.—Permanent construction, in good condition of repair. Small outlays only will be required.

Los Baños, Daraga.—There are small claims at Los Baños and Daraga still to be settled. Los Baños is the site of hot springs and the hospital is principally used in this connection. It is a scout post and should be continued. Daraga is a battalion post, of temporary or semipermanent construction, and will require extensive repairs during the coming year.

Camp McGrath.—Surveys have been made for a proposed and very necessary increase to the reservation as originally proposed. The construction at Camp McGrath is semipermanent and will require considerable outlay during the coming fiscal year.

Lucena.—Now a scout post; battalion headquarters. Temporary construction, in fair repair.

Camp John Hay, Benguet.—A small enlargement to the present reservation has been recommended in order to bring the old Benguet road within the reservation limits. The construction here is of lumber, permanent type. The station is maintained as a sanitarium. Additional construction is contemplated as funds become available.

Camp Wallace.—Temporary construction, constant repairs required. The plan has been to garrison this station with a battalion of Ilocano scouts and send the cavalry squadron to Fort William McKinley, where the balance of the regiment is now stationed.

Camp Gregg.—Headquarters and one battalion of scouts. Temporary construction, in fair repair. This is to be maintained as a scout post. There is no occasion whatever for other regular troops.

All other posts in the department are scout posts of more or less temporary character.

ARTILLERY STATIONS.

Grande Island.—Quarters of temporary construction for one company of coast artillery have been completed. Considerable outlay will be required here for drainage, sewerage, and water systems, officers' quarters, permanent barracks, storehouses, etc. All construction here should be of reinforced concrete. While the original cost of this type is three times as great, it is far cheaper in the end; it is far more comfortable to live in.

Corregidor Island.—The reservation cases on Corregidor Island have been practically settled. An agreement to purchase for a reasonable figure has been made. The papers were signed just a day or two

prior to the relief of the undersigned. The post site has been selected. The line for the electric railway is being surveyed. The allotment for this post should be made as a special allotment. The construction should be of reenforced concrete. This matter has been covered in detail in correspondence. A well is now being bored; the present water supply is from springs.

The civil government is willing to permit the military authorities to use convicts for labor purposes on Grande and Corregidor Islands; they make good laborers. The civil government furnishes the rations and clothing; the military authorities quarter them, guard them, and take care of the sick. They are specially valuable, for obvious reasons, for the type of work being done at these posts. A great saving can be made in using them; 1,500 can be obtained if desired. Scout companies furnish the necessary guard.

DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

There is a general condition of good order throughout the Department of the Visayas, with the possibility of a recurrence of the trouble at any time in the islands of Samar and Leyte. The trouble in these islands has been due entirely to local conditions of bad government, and the bad treatment of the interior people by the inhabitants of the coast towns, especially the traders, merchants, and local petty political leaders. The disturbances in these islands have in no way resulted from the possession of the islands by the United States. The use of troops was rendered necessary in order to protect the people of the coast towns and bring to an end extensive conditions of lawlessness and disorder.

Camp Jossman.—It will be necessary to purchase about 2,000 acres of land for the purpose of enlarging the present reservation at Camp Jossman, in order to give sufficient ground for the instruction of the regiment stationed there. This regimental post will, in all probability, be permanently maintained. The additional land will make it possible to separate the garrison by a reasonable space from the small barrios which now press upon it and are the principal sources of infection. A wharf should eventually be built on the eastern side of the island to enable troops and freight to be landed in rough weather. The construction is of a temporary type, and must soon be largely replaced.

Biliran Island.—The gradual concentration of troops, with the consequent abandonment of old posts and the construction of new quarters of a permanent or semipermanent type at the large stations will necessitate a liberal allotment to this department for the next two years, under "Barracks and Quarters," to cover the construction of the new post on Biliran Island, where a large reservation has been surveyed and is about to be declared. If the present plans are carried out this will become a station for one full regiment and two battalions of infantry. Quarters for one full regiment and one battalion will be needed in the immediate future. The site is an excellent one from every standpoint—a splendid, well-protected harbor, inexhaustible water supply, a great amount of good timber and stone for building, and an excellent strategic position. There are very few settlers on this site; \$20,000 should settle all claims. The area is about 16,000 acres.

Cebu.—It is proposed to construct a battalion post at Cebu. The reservation has already been surveyed, but the proceedings have been brought to a standstill on account of the high price at which the land was held by the civil government. It is hoped that some arrangement can be effected by which this land can be secured at a reasonable figure, or an exchange arranged for the present headquarters building and adjacent ground in Cebu, retaining the wharf and old fort, which will be necessary for military purposes.

Ormoc.—This station should be held for a year or two more by American troops, and then garrisoned by scouts, the battalion being sent to Biliran. The site is excellent, but there is little use for any garrison other than a company, or possibly two, of Philippine Scouts.

Camp Connell.—This post is to be abandoned as soon as the construction at Biliran Island will permit the transfer of the garrison. It is of temporary construction, largely devoid of water supply. It is very difficult of access; for weeks at a time neither freight nor troops can be landed or shipped. There is no road or trail communication with the other portions of Samar excepting those portions immediately adjacent to the post. The country which it is supposed to cover would be covered much better from Biliran Island. There are many cases of tuberculosis in the vicinity. There is no drill ground or opportunity for the proper instruction of the troops.

Camp Bumpus.—This post was recently largely destroyed by a hurricane. The present reservation is about 100 acres, surrounded on two sides by the town of Tacloban. It is extremely difficult of access by water on account of the very tortuous channels on the north and south. The land is needed by the town for commercial purposes. This garrison should be the first transferred to Biliran Island as soon as quarters are ready for it. An agreement was reached on February 18, 1908, providing for the settlement of all back claims for rent. These claims averaged about five years. The amount agreed upon was approximately \$12,500, and is believed to be just and reasonable. The buildings at this post, with the exception of one or two, are not worth reconstruction. There is no drill ground nor target range.

Iloilo, Panay.—Quarters for two companies of infantry and military prisoners; construction permanent and semipermanent type, consisting of an old fort and a number of newly constructed temporary buildings. On the completion of the large military prison now under construction at Fort William McKinley, Rizal, the prisoners at Iloilo can be removed, and ample quarters, in addition to storerooms, made available for the shelter of the two companies now stationed there.

The remaining posts in the Department of the Visayas are scout posts of temporary construction.

DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO.

Good order has continued among the Moros. There have been a few minor acts of lawlessness committed by roving bands of outlaws, but nothing of a serious character. The operations of these outlaws have been principally directed against other Moros.

The presence of cholera in the Lake Lanao region necessitated the establishment of rigid quarantine against the Moros of the region; this gave rise to some irritation and resentment, but nothing of a serious character.

Camp Keithley.—An addition to the present reservation has been recommended and can be obtained at the present time at little or no cost, and will be needed for maneuvers and instruction purposes. The post is of temporary construction, with a few semipermanent buildings. The railroad recommended in previous reports is urgently needed; its construction will result in great economy and do much to add to the comfort of the troops.

Parang.—A new regimental post of permanent construction nearly completed. About \$30,000, "Army Transportation," is needed to complete the roads and walks, and sewer and water systems. The site is excellent. There is a good target range. The station will be required indefinitely, as it covers a large part of the Moro region.

Jolo.—A brigade post, equipped for one regiment of cavalry and one mountain battery. Buildings are of permanent construction, in good condition. The outlay required will be for incidental repairs, outbuildings, and possibly a few storehouses.

Camp Overton.—Construction semipermanent and temporary. The cavalry squadron stationed here has been ordered to Jolo, and will be replaced by one battalion of infantry. Constant repairs will be required here, also considerable outlay for the repair of the wharf.

The general conditions of good order throughout the division are largely the result of the presence of troops, and the garrison should not be reduced, as such action will only tend to give encouragement to the lawless element, resulting in a renewal of disturbances. It will require some time to thoroughly build up confidence and bring about a settled and permanent condition of good order, which is absolutely necessary for the progress, prosperity, and development of the islands.

The duties of this department have been very satisfactorily and efficiently performed.

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The remarks and recommendations in last year's report concerning clerks are renewed.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The performance of duty by the officers of this department has been efficient and satisfactory. Inspections have been properly made, and the work pertaining to the department is well up. Discipline is reported to be good and desertions so few as not to be worthy of comment.

Attention is invited to extract in last year's report under the heading "Officers;" experience during the past year has only served to confirm the opinion therein expressed. The large number of absent officers continues, amounting in all to about 25 per cent of those assigned to the division.

In making inspections, inspectors-general should pay much more attention to administration, the wisdom and economy displayed in purchases, expenditures, construction, use of transportation, etc. Inspections of real value on these lines can only be made by men thoroughly familiar with the subjects in question, consequently it is desirable that the chief quartermasters of the division and departments should make thorough and frequent inspections of all work done by their representatives. Too much emphasis can not be placed upon this form of inspection. Many entirely inexperienced officers are charged with making purchases, doing a large amount of construction, etc., and an inspection which is often devoted largely to accountability falls far short of what it should.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The work of the department as a whole has been satisfactorily performed. The work on land cases has occupied a great portion of the attention of this department. Many of the most troublesome of these cases have been closed, and others are well under way toward settlement.

The remarks in last year's report concerning trials by summary courts are renewed. It is believed that the employment of disciplinary measures within the control of organization commanders would result in a great reduction in the number of summary court cases.

This department should be provided with well-informed permanent clerks. The detail of enlisted men is usually unsatisfactory, as those detailed generally lack training, and changes among them are too frequent.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

A very large amount of work falls on this department, and at least 12 experienced quartermasters are required to properly conduct the affairs of the department in this division. This does not include the quartermaster, accredited to this division, stationed at Nagasaki. The department has been very severely handicapped in its work by the shortage of officers. Experienced men of sound judgment, thoroughly familiar with the affairs of their department, are required in this division, and the economical conduct of the business affairs of the quartermaster's department depends very largely upon the pres-

ence of officers of this type. Lack of experience is especially expensive in matters of transportation and construction.

Allotments.—The allotments for the present fiscal year for transportation, regular supplies, barracks and quarters, have been insufficient to properly perform necessary work. This is especially true of army transportation and regular supplies. The estimate submitted for this year for army transportation was \$2,400,000. This estimate was based upon a most careful study of the needs of the division and should not have been reduced, as the following statement, showing the garrisons and allotments for the preceding years, will show :

	Garrison.	Allotment.
June 30, 1904.....	18,205	\$4,980,679.72
June 30, 1905.....	18,862	3,731,243.72
June 30, 1906.....	20,043	3,027,690.12
June 30, 1907.....	18,175	2,886,151.59
1908.....	17,425	2,000,000.00

Two million dollars was originally allotted, a reduction of \$400,000 on the estimate. It was impossible, as will be readily understood from the above figures, to make this amount do and at the same time properly conduct the affairs of the division. This amount has been increased by about \$275,000, and to carry the division through until June 30, 1908, an additional allotment of at least \$125,000 will be required; in all probability in the neighborhood of \$225,000. The original estimate was based upon the continuance of conditions which existed at the time it was submitted in 1907. Since then very considerable calls have been made upon army transportation incident to the work on seacoast defenses, etc. The allotment for the coming year should be at least \$2,600,000, and if the work on fortifications is pushed forward more will be needed, especially for roads, walks, water supply, sewers, etc.

Regular supplies.—There should also be an increase in the allotment under "Regular Supplies." The amount allotted this year is considerably less than that of preceding years. Approximately \$520,000 should be allotted for regular supplies in order that the increased outlay for electric lighting may be met and funds be available for the purchase of the necessary amount of green forage required to keep public animals in good condition.

Public animals.—There has been a general shortage in public animals, especially horses. The shortage in horses has been due to the rapid breaking down of a large number of the horses which have been in the islands since the early days of the American occupation. These old horses are going out very rapidly and must be replaced. Every effort has been made to use them for easy draft and ambulance purposes, delivery wagons, etc., but their retention in the service is not an economy, as the cost per head per day will average about 70 cents gold on account of the high cost of forage, and they can not do more than two or three days' work per week. They are too old and broken down to sell to the natives; the only course open has been to continue them in service until ordered destroyed by an inspector. Approximately 1,000 new cavalry horses were brought into the division last year, and this year authority has been obtained to purchase 600 more in Australia. One thousand additional will be required

within the next two years, 600 within the next year. Once the complement of horses is brought up there should be a period of five or six years during which the number of horses required will be small.

The recent arrival of mules has made it possible to fill up pack trains which for the first time in several years are now full and ready for any call which may be made upon them. About 150 additional draft mules will be required during the coming year. There is a very heavy drain on draft mules on the Overton-Lake Lanao road. If the recommendations for a railroad are adopted and the road built, the demands upon the wheeled transportation in this division will be very greatly reduced.

The pack trains should be kept filled to the limit, and maintained upon a basis of at least two to each regiment of cavalry, and one full train for each regiment of infantry. This is the only transportation which can be used in the Philippine Islands outside the post limits, except under very exceptional circumstances at a few places in the division. There are few passable wagon roads and little prospect of there being any of consequence for several years to come except in the vicinity of the large towns, and in case of field operations we shall be entirely dependent upon the pack trains, carabao carts, and cargadores.

The Australian horses recently received in Manila cost, delivered in Manila, approximately \$150 per head, and are far superior in quality to any horses which can be delivered from the United States for this amount of money. Those purchased thus far have been reported as very satisfactory. If reports continue to be favorable, it is recommended that authority be granted for the purchase of 600 more. The purchases should be made in the open market, as the contract system is unsatisfactory in Australia, and in the end most expensive.

It is understood that an appropriation has been made for the construction of the new storehouses on the Government reservation on the new made land on the water front at Manila. These buildings are urgently needed. The present site is much needed for commerce, and the land allotted the Government is unoccupied and should be used. The buildings, when constructed, should be of the most permanent type of steel and reenforced concrete and should be two stories high throughout, in order to economize space and keep supplies off the ground. All buildings should be provided with tracks leading from the dock and with elevators, in order that loaded cars can be brought from the dock to the floor where the goods are to be stored without unloading.

The quartermaster's dock has been completed and in use for some months.

Barracks and quarters.—The permanent type of construction costs much more at the beginning, but the present semipermanent and temporary construction is in the end most extravagant, and does not, at posts which are to be permanent, represent a wise or economical expenditure of public funds.

Good clay exists in many parts of the Philippine Islands, and in several localities abundant material for making an excellent cement.

Native teamsters.—Native teamsters are being used more and more, and have proven generally satisfactory. Their cost is about one-third that of American teamsters.

Forage.—Recommendations have been submitted to the civil government urging that an appropriation be made and that the production of native forage be seriously undertaken. It is believed that steps will be taken in the immediate future to this end. There seems to be no reason to doubt that a suitable native forage can be developed and sold at a cost not to exceed one-half that of the present imported forage.

Batan coal mines.—The development of the Batan coal mines is going forward as rapidly as the means at hand will permit. There is every reason to believe that a large quantity of coal of fair quality will be discovered at Batan. The use of the coal to a limited extent on the coast guard and commercial lines shows that it takes from 15 to 20 per cent more of this coal to do the same amount of work, while its cost will not exceed one-half that of Japanese or Australian coal.

Khaki clothing.—A large amount of khaki clothing for the use of scouts and American troops is being manufactured in the Philippine Islands. It is far superior in quality and appearance to that furnished from the United States, and is very much cheaper. It is preferred by both officers and men, so much so that it is difficult to issue any of the American khaki clothing. There is no reason whatever for sending it to the division, as any amount of superior khaki can be secured in the local market at much better rates for the officers and men.

Army transports.—The remarks made in last year's report relative to ocean transports are renewed.

The transports at present in the interisland service are old and will require extensive repairs. None of them are entirely suited for the work, and the outlay for repairs will be constant and heavy. It is recommended that steps should be taken to replace two of these ships by two new ones approximately 800 tons each, draft not to exceed 14 feet of water; twin screws, in order to facilitate handling in small harbors and strong currents; capacity for a battalion of troops and from 30 to 40 first-class passengers, and a refrigerating plant sufficient to meet the necessities of the interisland service. These vessels should be constructed for tropical service, and should have a speed of from 10 to 11 knots per hour.

The detail of officers of artillery, cavalry, and infantry as transport quartermasters is, in the opinion of the undersigned, greatly to the detriment of the arms to which they belong, now, as always, short of officers, and of very questionable benefit to the transport service in many instances. It is believed that their duties would, as a rule, be much better performed by well-trained pursers, who know their business. If considered necessary, these pursers could be duly appointed quartermaster's agents and properly bonded or even commissioned as officers of the transport service. Such action would result in improved conditions and secure the services of men experienced and familiar with these duties, and avoid stripping the line of much-needed officers, and their assignment to duties with which they are, as a rule, entirely unfamiliar. The disciplinary control of the entire personnel of the ship—all those forming the crew in all departments—should be vested in the captain of the ship; that of the troops in the commanding officer, as at present. This arrangement would insure the maintenance of the proper discipline in the ship's crew as a whole,

including the steward's department, and greatly improve administrative conditions on board transports.

Launches.—Many of the old launches have been extensively repaired during the past year; others have been sold. One new launch has been received and two others are about ready for delivery.

Torpedo planter.—A suitable torpedo planter should be constructed without delay.

Proper packing.—The remarks made in last year's and previous reports concerning proper packing are renewed. Tin-lined boxes for all articles affected by dampness are recommended. The type of lining used is very cheap, and the cost is insignificant in comparison with the saving which would be effected. There would also be a great saving in the cost of constant opening, examining, and repacking boxes. Supplies packed in tin-lined cases can be maintained in good condition for an indefinite period of time.

Use of native materials—Purchase in local markets.—Under the authority of the Secretary of War, orders were issued directing the use of native materials in all instances where they could be used economically, this to be determined by the actual cost to the Government of the article at the point of consumption, including cost of transportation, shipment and reshipment, etc. Instructions were also issued directing the purchase of supplies on the local market under similar conditions.

In conclusion, it is believed that the expenses of the quartermaster's department in this division have been reduced to the lowest point consistent with the efficient performance of its duties under present conditions.

COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT.

The supplies have been ample and of good quality, and the service as a rule has been prompt. The losses have been small. Vegetables have been purchased in Australia, Japan, and the United States as heretofore. There has been a slight increase in the cost of the ration. The recommendations of previous years to the effect that cans and cases should be indelibly marked with the contents and date of canning, and that serious efforts should be made to have all tinned commissary supplies furnished in packages of a size and shape suitable for packing without undue loss of space are renewed.

The scout ration is being commuted in several companies for the purpose of investigating the possibilities of local supply for native troops, and whether such supply will be possible wholly or only in part. It is believed that this procedure would tend to build up the local food supply, and that there will not be any difficulty in securing the principal components of the scout ration, with the possible exception of fresh beef, which should be issued as at present. The local sources of supply of fresh beef in the Philippine Islands are increasing, and in a few years it will be possible for the scouts to purchase fresh beef at or near their posts. It seems inadvisable to ration these native troops on food products brought from the United States. The food supply of the Philippine Islands is ample for its people, and should be utilized for native troops.

Ice and cold storage are obtained under the same conditions and subject to the same general criticisms as in the annual report of this division for 1907.

The performance of duty by the commissary department has been satisfactory and efficient.

Sales and issues of rations to civilians have decreased. The sale of commissaries to the Civil Hospital, Manila, has been ordered discontinued under agreement with the governor-general, as has the sale to the public of rations saved by organizations, for inasmuch as these rations come in without duty their sale in the islands results in an unfair competition with local dealers, and was discontinued for this reason.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The duties pertaining to this department have been satisfactorily and efficiently performed.

The death rate and noneffective rate among the troops throughout the division has been about the same this year as last year. Reports for the full period covered by this report have not yet been received. Venereal disease continues to be the principal cause of sickness and disability. It has been repeatedly remarked that troops leaving the Philippine Islands present a far better appearance than on their arrival. There is nothing whatever in the medical reports to indicate that any bad effects have resulted from practice marches or from the present system of instruction. The remarks made on this subject in the annual report of this division for 1907 apply equally well to conditions this year. Our healthiest and strongest men are those who get the most exercise in the open air.

The previous recommendations relative to the increase in the number of regular medical officers are renewed. The needs of the service will be met by the bill now before Congress.

Steps have been taken to instruct two privates in each company of scouts in the duties of men of the Hospital Corps, with a view to their detail with the medical department at scout stations where no other regular troops are serving. Reports received show that the men detailed are doing as well as could be expected.

The results obtained from the sanitarium at Camp John Hay, Benguet, have been most excellent. There is hardly a case where marked improvement has not followed a short stay at Camp John Hay, although most of the cases going there were old chronic cases. An analysis of every case admitted since the establishment of the hospital confirms this statement. The present capacity of the sanitarium consists of a hospital of 50 beds, which has been recently completed, and a large, comfortable barrack building with open fireplaces, capable of accommodating 100 convalescents, is nearing completion. An additional number of officers and men can be taken care of in floored hospital tents. As the result of careful observation of conditions at Camp John Hay, Benguet, extending over a period of two years, it can be safely stated that this place furnishes an almost ideal place for recuperation. When the railroad is completed there will be no reason for sending officers or men out of the Philippine Islands for recuperation, except in cases of tuberculosis and such special cases as may arise from time to time.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The duties of this department have been satisfactorily performed. Efforts have been made, generally with success, to pay the troops in

this division monthly. It is believed that the withdrawal of officers from the artillery, cavalry, and infantry for service in the pay department, while perhaps necessary as a temporary measure, is not to the best interests of the army, and that troops should be paid through the pay department by means of its officers or additional pay clerks properly bonded. The troops here at present are very short of line officers, and it is believed that the services of these officers would be more valuable to the army with troops, where their technical knowledge can not be replaced, than under detail with the pay department.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

The duties of this corps, in connection with fortifications, the progressive military map of the Philippine Islands, and the surveys of proposed reservations, and other engineer work, have been very efficiently and satisfactorily performed. Steps have been taken to coordinate the work done by the Military Information Division and the chief engineer officer, in order that duplication of work may be avoided as much as possible. In view of the large amount of work now being done on fortifications, two additional companies of engineers, both to be stationed in the Department of Luzon, could be used to great advantage. Authority has been granted to increase the two companies now in the division to full strength; this has helped matters somewhat. If the recommendation looking to the increase in the number of scout companies is approved, it is believed that two of the companies should be organized as engineer companies. The facility with which native troops handle native materials would render them of the greatest value in case of military operations in the Philippine Islands, as well as in the routine work of peace times. They are exceedingly clever in the use of bamboo, with which they construct bridges, rafts, etc., with great rapidity and success.

Steady progress has been made on the progressive military map throughout the division.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The work of this department has been most efficiently and satisfactorily performed.

Springfield rifles to replace those in the hands of the troops arrived on the February transport, and steps have been taken to effect their immediate exchange. It is thought that the new Springfield will be more satisfactory even than the present rifle. Such minor defects as existed in the old rifle have been largely corrected.

The recommendations in the annual report of the Philippines Division for 1907, to the effect that gun slings should be made a little longer, that a large caliber revolver should be adopted, that intrenching tools should be issued throughout the division, and that ample material for bayonet fencing should be furnished, are renewed and urged.

SIGNAL CORPS.

The performance of duty by the Signal Corps has been very satisfactory. The company now organized with station at Manila is in especially good condition.

The transfer of nearly all telegraph lines in the division to the civil government has been completed, under an agreement, copy of which is on file in the War Department, and the lines transferred, together with the cables, will be from now on taken care of by the civil government. The military authorities agreed to maintain a ship for use as a cable ship for a period of two years from the date of transfer. During this time they receive free service. On the expiration of this period the service will be furnished at the same rate it is furnished the civil government of the Philippine Islands. When the cable ship is in the service of the civil government expenses of maintenance are paid, with the exception of the stewards' department, by the civil government.

The success of the wireless station between Zamboanga and Jolo has been such that it is believed that this system should largely replace the cable for military purposes, and it is recommended that this system be established to the extent of furnishing direct service between Manila and Jolo, with stations at Parang, Iloilo, Cebu, Biliran Island; in brief, sufficient stations to connect the headquarters at Manila with the department headquarters and the larger garrisons throughout the archipelago.

GENERAL STAFF.

There were three officers of the General Staff on duty at these headquarters during the period covered by this report. An additional officer could be used to great advantage.

The performance of duty by the officers of the General Staff has been very satisfactory. There is as much work properly belonging to them as they can possibly do.

CAVALRY.

There has been no particular change effected in the general arrangement of the cavalry garrison since the last report.

Orders have been issued which will result in the entire Sixth Cavalry being assembled at Jolo about the middle of March, its place at Camp Overton and Malabang being taken by infantry. This will result in three of the four cavalry regiments garrisoning the islands being brought together at large posts; the fourth regiment (the Tenth Cavalry) has two squadrons and headquarters at Fort William McKinley and one squadron at Camp Wallace. It was proposed to bring this squadron to Fort William McKinley, and eventually garrison Camp Wallace with scouts. It is believed that this measure should be carried out, as there is no occasion whatever for cavalry at Camp Wallace, and a scout station in that vicinity is needed as a recruiting rendezvous for the Ilocano companies now in the service.

As stated above, the cavalry will require about 1,000 horses within the next year and a half in addition to those now being purchased in Australia. They received about 1,000 during the past year. Authority has been received to purchase 600 horses in Australia; those received have been reported upon very favorably. It is recommended that authority be obtained to purchase 600 in addition to those already authorized.

It is believed that the incoming cavalry regiments should bring their horse equipments with them, and take the same with them when they leave.

The work of the cavalry in this division has been of the greatest value, and will undoubtedly be so in case of future emergency. The number of cavalry regiments at present in the division should not be reduced.

The cavalry should be reorganized on modern lines, which would tend to make our regiments more easy to handle and more adaptable to conditions of modern war, at the same time properly distributing the command and furnishing a healthy flow of promotion. There should be a thorough weeding out of officers, especially field officers, who are from any cause physically unfitted for the service.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

The artillery of this division should consist of at least six batteries of mountain artillery (two battalions) and one battalion of light artillery. Even with this allowance we shall be below the proper allotment of guns per thousand. If practicable, all mountain batteries should be mounted. A liberal reserve of ammunition for all batteries should be kept constantly on hand. The proposed new carriage for the mountain artillery should be furnished as soon as practicable. The absence of roads, and the improbability of any considerable amount of road building being done in the immediate future, except near large towns, makes it advisable to have the major portion of the field artillery in this division mountain artillery.

COAST ARTILLERY.

One company of coast artillery arrived in the division in September, 1907, and were stationed at Grande Island. Two additional companies should be sent at once, as they will be needed immediately to take care of the guns already being mounted. Additional companies should be furnished as fast as required. Quarters for these companies should be of reenforced concrete construction.

INFANTRY.

The remarks and recommendations made in the annual report of this division for 1907 are renewed.

Especial attention is invited to that portion recommending an increase in the number of regiments and in the strength of the present companies, the necessity for adopting a proper pack, the development of mobility, instruction in swimming, the use of the bayonet and intrenching tools, etc.: also to the necessity for eliminating, especially among the field officers, all those who are physically unfitted for hard field service. As a result of careful personal observation, it is the opinion of the undersigned that a very large percentage of field officers are physically unfit to take the field in time of war with advantage to the service. This is a condition which requires drastic action.

SCOUTS.

The scouts continue to render most excellent service. Authority has been obtained for an expenditure of ammunition which will put them on the same footing with other regular troops as regards target practice. The War Department has also directed that they receive as a reward for excellence in shooting an increase of pay in the proportion of 1 peso per dollar gold of the amount received by other regular troops. It has also authorized an increase in the strength of scout companies to 110 men per company, and the organization of scout bands of 24 pieces in all organized battalions. Scouts are particularly fond of music, and the addition of a band at battalion headquarters will tend greatly to their contentment. Two men per company have been selected from a number of companies for the purpose of training them as hospital corps men, with a view to their use at scout stations where no other regular troops are stationed. The project thus far promises to be successful, although sufficient time has not elapsed to render final expression of opinion advisable.

It is recommended that the scouts be given the same consideration on discharge for disability as other troops, and retired on request after thirty years' service, as are other enlisted men, retired pay to be on the basis of a peso to the dollar; that a scouts' home be established in the Philippine Islands for old and disabled scouts, to be supported by 6½ cents per month contributed by each scout, and the court-martial fines of scouts, which now go to the National Soldiers' Home in Washington. It is not just to require the scouts to contribute funds to an institution from which they can receive no benefit, and there are already a number of disabled scouts who are entitled to and in need of the relief which this money would give. With the present force of scouts the monthly contribution of 6½ cents from each scout, alone, would give the home an income of over \$3,750 per year, and it is probable that only a part of this would be needed for current expenses for some years to come. The surplus could be placed in a reserve fund for use in the future when it is needed. All funds received by the National Soldiers' Home from the Philippine Scouts in the past should be turned over to the scouts' home for use in the construction of the necessary buildings, and if there should be any surplus it should go into the reserve fund mentioned above. The habits, mode of life, and customs of the natives of the Philippine Islands are so different from those of the people of the continental portion of the United States that the manner of conducting a home for them would have to be quite different from that of a home in the United States. The home should consist of one or more settlements, where the pensioners could live in small houses, with their wives and minor children. Their rations should be issued to them, to be cooked by members of their families. The few unattached pensioners could be housed together. By far the greater number receiving aid should be "outside pensioners," who should be allowed to live wherever they please. Admissions to the home should be made under essentially the same conditions as those in force at the National Soldiers' Home, except that they should be extended to include such members of the Squadron of Philippine Cavalry and native scouts formerly employed by the quartermaster's department as are suffering from dis-

ability incident to their service which incapacitates them from making their living.

As the scouts have neither the full dress nor dress uniform, it is recommended that they be authorized to wear the service stripes on the khaki blouse. This stripe should be of brown braid (fast color) three-eighths of an inch wide, and placed on the sleeve in the same manner as now prescribed for the full-dress coat. A stripe for service in the Squadron of Philippine Cavalry, of a slightly different pattern, should also be authorized.

The necessity for enlarging the source from which scout officers are drawn has been apparent for some time, and recommendations have been made to the War Department that steps be taken to secure legislation authorizing the appointment as scout second lieutenants of such cadets at military schools having Regular Army officers as instructors as may be recommended by those officers; the appointment of cadets of two years' service at the Military Academy who have been found deficient in not more than one study, who are recommended by the academic board. It is highly probable that the present force of scouts will be increased, and, as time goes on, a native force organized upon a regimental basis. It is already practically organized on a battalion basis, and it is advisable that steps be taken now to secure a larger field of supply for officers than the present source, from which younger men can be drawn than are at present secured, men whose general education is somewhat better. This arrangement would not prevent the selection of deserving noncommissioned officers, but simply give us other and larger sources of supply.

It has been recommended to the War Department, and it is understood that it (the War Department) has recommended to Congress the necessary legislation to enable the promotion of scout first lieutenants to the grade of captain. This should be done, as the present system is not altogether successful. It is only just and right that officers who have been with these companies for years and virtually made them what they are should be eligible for promotion to the grade of captain. It is believed that this law should, in the near future, be modified so as to provide for the promotion of carefully selected scout captains to the grade of major, such promotion to be made only after a thorough examination as to qualifications. The law providing for the detail of officers of the line of the Army as captains and majors of scouts should not now be revoked, but the President should have the power to promote scout officers to these higher grades when they show fitness for the positions. Under this arrangement the ambitious scout officer would have something to look forward to and work for beyond commanding a company, which many of them have been doing in a most satisfactory manner for over six years. It is recommended that all future vacancies in the grade of first lieutenant, Philippine Scouts, be filled by the promotion of second lieutenants, and that no one be appointed a second lieutenant who is over 30 years of age and who has not passed a satisfactory examination.

As scout officers serve continuously in the Philippine Islands, provision should be made for their retirement on the same general lines as other officers, with the following modifications (which should not apply to native officers):

They should, upon application, be eligible for retirement, with the approval of the President, after twenty-four years of service in the Philippine Islands, and they should be retired after thirty-two years' service in the Philippine Islands. In estimating length of service in the cases of those officers who have served as enlisted men in the United States, four years' service in the United States should count for retirement as three in the Philippine Islands. Native officers should, with the President's approval, and upon their own request, be allowed to retire after thirty years' service, and they should be retired after forty years' service.

It was recently recommended to the War Department that fifty additional companies of scouts be authorized; that two of these companies be organized as engineers and one company as a signal company. Native troops are especially skillful in the use of native materials, and would be very valuable in the capacities indicated.

The scouts take great pride in their uniform, are thoroughly loyal, and can be trusted. A force of 10,000 scouts could be used to great advantage in garrisoning these islands, and would make possible further concentration of the troops from America into larger garrisons where they can be thoroughly instructed and maintained under the best conditions. A force of 25,000 men which can be concentrated for the defense of such base as may be selected is needed, and this without drawing upon the constabulary or native police, who would be needed to protect life and property in the rural districts. The maintenance of the present garrison of white troops, plus a force of 10,000 scouts, would render this possible.

It is recommended that the scout ration (with the exception of the meat ration for the present) be composed as largely as possible of Philippine food products. It is a most unwise policy to furnish these troops with a ration brought entirely from America. As stated above, the experiment is being made in several companies of commuting entirely the scout ration, allowing them to buy either from the commissary or in open market what they may need. This plan has been adopted by the constabulary, and while not suited to large bodies of troops in campaign has proven very economical and satisfactory in the maintenance of the constabulary. It is believed that it can, with minor modifications, be adopted by the scouts. In case where they are in campaign with other regular troops they can be furnished a ration similar to the present one, but as it is probable that most of their service will be in the Philippine Islands, it is very desirable that they should be fed on a ration composed of Philippine food products.

PERSONNEL.

It is earnestly recommended that an efficient elimination law be enacted. The remarks already made under "Infantry" in reference to field officers apply to field officers of other arms and staff corps.

Officers in all field grades, from majors upward, including general officers, should attain grades on an average of at least ten years younger than they are doing under the present system. Our present system results in the best years of a man's life being spent in a subordinate position, and in his reaching a position of responsibility and command at a time when his physical and mental energies are in most

cases on the wane, in many instances to such an extent as to render him wholly unfit for any large measure of responsibility or active hard service of any kind.

INSTRUCTION.

Instruction has been carried out on the general lines prescribed in General Orders, No. 44, War Department, 1906, and General Orders, No. 16, May 20, 1907, Philippines Division. The objection to this form of instruction has come largely from officers who are not keenly interested in their profession. Whenever the officers have been cheerful and interested in the scheme of instruction and taken it up intelligently the men have been interested in their work. Any system of instruction which calls for hard work will be tiresome and uninteresting unless the instructors are keen and intelligent in its application.

Objection to the present system has been made in some instances on the ground that post commanders should be given more discretion in the training of their commands. If there was any procedure under which officers who have failed to bring their troops up to a high standard of efficiency could be suspended from promotion for a year, and on a second failure could be gotten rid of, it might be wise to issue instructions on very general lines, prescribing the general type of instruction and results required, leaving the details as to methods to be used in obtaining these results to the officers immediately in command, but as there is no effective method of punishing those who fail, or of getting rid of them, it is necessary to prescribe in considerable detail the instruction to be given. Great benefit would result to the service if inspections as to the efficiency of the troops of each arm could be made by a board of field officers of the arm in question. If, upon report of this board that the troops of a command are inefficient and that in their opinion, after examining all the local conditions, a certain officer or officers are responsible for this condition, the officer or officers concerned could, upon the recommendation of the department commander, be suspended from promotion and compelled to occupy their position on the lineal list without change until the next annual inspection of the troops of their command, and, if again found deficient, they could be dropped with a year's pay, we should have made a really substantial advance toward securing and maintaining a high degree of efficiency. Under present conditions routine inspection reports apparently have little weight in determining an officer's fitness or unfitness for advancement. It requires a most serious breach of discipline or of law to effectually retard or prevent his promotion. As long as this condition exists we must expect that lazy and indifferent officers will take advantage of it. It is most desirable to get rid of this class of officers. Some method must be advanced for doing it; at present there is none which is effective.

MACHINE GUNS.

It is recommended that a machine-gun company be added to each regiment, that the company be equipped with six machine guns, and that it be organized and maintained as a distinct organization. In case it is desirable to split it up in action or for detached service, two guns could be assigned to each battalion. The present allowance

of two guns per regiment is, in view of the great value of this arm, believed to be insufficient. Numerous drill regulations for machine-gun detachments have been presented; all of them have many good points. Great care should be taken lest these drill regulations become too complex and rigid. It is believed that the machine-gun detachment should be mounted, in order that additional animals may be available to replace those killed, and also for the purpose of carrying extra ammunition, and for the further reason that the detachments should be able to move rapidly into action and at the same time have their personnel in condition to do the best work.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

The interest in small-arms practice has continued keen throughout the year, and there is much enthusiasm concerning the new rifle, which, it is generally believed, will be markedly superior to the Springfield which has just been turned in. The division competition was held early in the year, and the results were excellent. An entire departure was made, so far as the targets were concerned, from the previous competitions. At known distance firing, targets with smaller subdivisions were used, in order that the true value might be given to center shooting. Kneeling figures were also used, moving on a slightly sunken track across the front of the advancing line at a varying rate of speed, the time being the same for each run. Skirmish figures were made of heavy cardboard so arranged by means of rods and cogs that they all appeared simultaneously and without warning in front of the line of advancing skirmishers. The cardboard used was sufficiently heavy to prevent any object except a bullet being driven through the target. The conditions simulated those of actual service much more closely than any we have heretofore had. The line of advancing skirmishers dropped on the appearance of the targets, commenced firing, and continued firing until they disappeared. The number of shots fired was increased from 20 to 40. It is believed that no maximum limit should be fixed, but that a minimum of at least 30 should be fixed in order to stimulate skill in rapidity of fire. In the pistol competition moving figures were used, also targets with much finer subdivisions. The targets gave general satisfaction, and were recognized by all as a very pronounced advance over previous competitions. Report of this competition will be submitted in detail. On account of the changed conditions it will be impossible to compare the result of this competition with the result of other division competitions. It can be stated, however, that most excellent shooting was done, fully up to that last year, when the division team made the highest average of all army teams in slow fire, including the army team; it made the highest average of all, including the army team, in rapid fire; it made the lowest average in skirmish fire, except the Pacific Division team; it made the highest individual score in slow fire and rapid fire of all, including the army team; its highest score in skirmish fire was below that of all others. This latter score, however, was fully accounted for by the fact that the targets were so arranged and the ground in front of them so prepared that no foreign objects could be driven through the targets, and that ricochets were very few. It is believed that the

arrangement to throw out ricochets was a mistake, as it reduced the skirmish score of the team probably 10 or 15 per cent, and for the further reason that actual ricochets should count; the object should be to have the target made of such material and the ground in front so prepared that nothing can be driven through the target except the bullet. Skirmish scores have undoubtedly been augmented since the days skirmish runs were first made by allowing large tears to count as several bullet holes, and holes made by gravel and other objects driven through the target as hits. The competition was exceedingly well handled. The shooting was over at 10 o'clock each morning, although it is probable that the number of competitors was the largest that has ever been assembled for an army competition.

INCREASED PAY.

In view of the desire of the War Department that no recommendations on this subject be made, pending action on the bill now before Congress, recommendations are omitted.

PERIOD OF ENLISTMENT.

The remarks and recommendations on this subject in the annual report for this division for 1907 are renewed, as necessary for the building up of a proper reserve, with the following modifications:

That the term of enlistment for the cavalry, field artillery, and coast artillery, in view of the longer period necessary for instruction, be continued as at present.

PRIVATES, FIRST CLASS—PRIVATES, SECOND CLASS.

All enlisted men in line organizations should be classified as privates, first class, and privates, second class, in the same manner and in the same proportion as in the staff corps, the classification to be in the hands of the organization commander. The pay of the privates, first class, should be increased \$4 per month, noncommissioned officers to be appointed from privates, first class.

NAVY COOPERATION.

The Navy has cooperated efficiently and cordially whenever called upon.

CONSTABULARY.

This organization has been brought into more or less constant contact with regular troops during the past year and has maintained its former excellent reputation. The organization and efficiency of the constabulary is almost wholly the work of carefully selected officers of the Army, and the organization as it now stands reflects much credit upon those officers who have been responsible for its development. It is believed that the service of regular officers for a reasonable time with the constabulary should not be counted against them as service away from troops, as the experience gained by the detailed officers in administration and command is far greater, and consequently of more value to them, than service with their organizations

in time of peace for a similar length of time would be. Captains detailed with the rank and pay of colonel, commanding districts, have an administrative responsibility and a command far greater than that which falls to most colonels in the regular service in peace. The director of constabulary, who has the rank and pay of a brigadier-general and who has most responsible duties to perform, involving the command, supply, discipline, etc., of approximately 6,000 men, is called upon to do work which calls for a high degree of administrative ability and thorough knowledge of organization, and involves an amount of work greater than comes to many department commanders in time of peace. All this constabulary work, while called civil, is carried on on lines and under principles which are largely military. Those officers detailed as inspectors gain most valuable experience. They are selected for their efficiency and standing in the regular service, and it is believed that the work they are called upon to do is, for a limited time, as valuable to them as service with their organizations in time of peace would be. As a result of constant observation and close contact with these officers, extending over a period of nearly five years, it is believed that service in the constabulary has been of distinct advantage to them.

FORTIFICATION BOARD.

The fortification board, as recommended in the annual report for this division for 1907, has already been organized. It is believed that it will be of the greatest value in pushing forward fortification work in these islands.

MEDALS OF HONOR AND CERTIFICATES OF MERIT.

It is believed that when a man has lost his life in winning one of these distinctions, it is only fitting that it should go to his nearest relative, and it is so recommended.

STUDY OF THE JAPANESE AND CHINESE LANGUAGES.

The remarks and recommendations made in the annual report of this division for 1907 are renewed, especially with reference to Japanese. Officers detailed for this work should, as a rule, be under 30 years of age.

TRAVEL.

Attention has been repeatedly drawn to the value to officers and to the Government of travel in foreign countries. The recommendations of previous years in this connection are renewed and urged. The cost to the Government will be insignificant in comparison to the return which will be received.

GENERAL SERVICE CORPS.

The need for a general service corps is generally recognized throughout the service. Its establishment will tend to economy and efficiency and to the improvement of discipline. This corps is most urgently needed. The strength of the Army is weakened and the

The Ninth and Tenth Regiments of Cavalry which are serving in this division have each one troop on duty in the United States.

The regular garrison of the division has been increased by two companies of coast artillery and decreased by one regiment of infantry since the rendition of the last report.

There are no scout companies on duty with the civil government at present.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF TROOPS.

The following organizations have arrived in the division during the year:

Organization.	Transport.	Date of arrival.
Corps of Engineers: Companies C and D.....	Sherman	Aug. 4, 1907
Cavalry:		
First Regiment, headquarters and 9 troops.....	Thomas	Jan. 2, 1908
Three troops, D, H, and I.....	do	Apr. 1, 1908
Sixth Regiment, headquarters and 10 troops.....	do	Oct. 9, 1907
Two troops, D and F.....	do	Jan. 2, 1908
Ninth Regiment, Troop M.....	Logan	Sept. 1, 1907
Tenth Regiment, Troops B and I.....	Thomas	July 3, 1907
Artillery:		
Thirty-fifth Company, coast.....	Sherman	May 5, 1908
Fifty-seventh Company, coast.....	Warren	Sept. 6, 1908
Fifth Regiment, field, staff, band, and headquarters.....	Thomas	Oct. 9, 1907
Batteries A and B.....	Crook	Mar. 18, 1908
Infantry:		
Fourth Regiment.....	Thomas	Apr. 1, 1908
Fourteenth Regiment.....	Sherman	Feb. 3, 1908
Eighteenth Regiment.....	do	Nov. 3, 1907
Twenty-third Regiment.....	Buford	Mar. 4, 1908
Twenty-fifth Regiment.....	Crook	Sept. 13, 1907
Twenty-sixth Regiment.....	Thomas	July 3, 1907
Twenty-ninth Regiment.....	Logan	Sept. 1, 1907
Thirtieth Regiment.....	Sherman	Aug. 4, 1907

The following organizations have been relieved from duty during the year and ordered to the United States:

Organization.	Transport.	Date of departure.
Corps of Engineers: Companies A and B.....	Sherman	Aug. 15, 1907
Cavalry:		
Third Regiment.....	Thomas	Jan. 16, 1908
Fourth Regiment, Troops F and G.....	do	July 15, 1907
Headquarters and 10 troops.....	do	Oct. 24, 1907
Artillery: Fifth Regiment, field, Batteries D and E.....	Crook	Apr. 5, 1908
Infantry:		
First Regiment.....	Sherman	May 15, 1908
Second Regiment, headquarters and 5 companies—C, I, K, L, and M.....	Buford	Mar. 18, 1908
Seven companies.....	Crook	Apr. 5, 1908
Eighth Regiment.....	Thomas	Apr. 15, 1908
Ninth Regiment, headquarters and 11 companies.....	do	July 15, 1907
Thirteenth Regiment, headquarters, First and Second Battalions.....	Logan	Sept. 15, 1907
Third Battalion.....	Crook	Oct. 3, 1907
Fifteenth Regiment.....	Sherman	Nov. 15, 1907
Sixteenth Regiment.....	do	Aug. 15, 1907
Twenty-fourth Regiment.....	do	Feb. 14, 1908

DESERTIONS, DISCHARGES, TRANSFERS.

There have been 97 desertions of enlisted men reported from the various regular organizations during the year, as against 41 last year and 53 the year before.

From Philippine scout organizations there have been 16 desertions reported, as against 8 last year and 13 the year before.

One hundred and twenty-three enlisted men having less than six months to serve to complete their enlistment have been discharged to accept positions under the civil government, as against 41 last year.

Enlisted men have been discharged for the convenience of the government to accept positions in military departments as follows:

Adjutant-general's office (clerks and messengers)	7
Quartermaster's department (clerks, packers, teamsters, etc.)	79
Medical department	1
Engineer department	4
Ordnance department	2
Pay department	1
Total	94
as against 75 last year.	

Two hundred and thirty-four enlisted men were sent to the United States for medical treatment, the same number as last year.

On account of a desire for further foreign service 695 transfers were made from organizations departing for the United States to organizations remaining in the islands, as against 554 last year.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The relations between the military authorities and the insular government have been cordial and harmonious.

A general condition of peace has existed throughout the Philippine Islands during the year. The only troubles necessitating the use of troops have been in the Department of Mindanao, where the conditions are such that episodes of local unrest which will require the presence, and occasionally the use, of troops must be expected from time to time. With this exception the troops have generally been engaged in military training incident to garrison life.

Advantage has been taken of this condition of quiet to continue the policy of the reduction of the number of garrisons and the concentration of troops with a view to their convenience of location, better instruction, and more economical supply.

In the city of Manila the quarters occupied by the commanding general, Department of Luzon, and his staff, on Calle Nozaleda, are most valuable to the military government, well adapted to the requirements, and result in much saving of commutation of quarters. These buildings should be permanently held by the military authorities.

The estado mayor, the division hospital, and the medical supply depot, all of which are situated along the Pasig River, in the heart of the city, are very important to the military, and should be permanently retained.

At Camp John Hay a hospital sufficient to accommodate 36 men has been completed, also a barrack building for 75 convalescents, and the regular detachment stationed there. The insufficiency of the water supply at this post makes it practically impossible at present to further increase this garrison. An unsuccessful effort was made to secure an ample supply by means of a driven well. There are numerous springs in the vicinity of the camp and steps are now being taken to form a reservoir for the storage of water from them.

The result of this effort will not be definitely known for several months.

Fort Wint, on Grande Island, and Fort Mills, on Corregidor Island, while lying within the territorial limits of the Department of Luzon, are not within the jurisdiction of the department commander. They report direct to these headquarters. The coast artillery companies at each of these forts have been comfortably housed. The work devolving upon them is progressing satisfactorily, but will be touched upon more fully at another point.

The allotment of land to the military government on the new made ground adjacent to the depot quartermaster's storehouses has been satisfactorily adjusted with the insular government. A board of officers made recommendation as to the distribution of this space to the different departments; which has been approved. The chief quartermaster makes the following comment on this subject:

The construction of the new proposed supply depots on the Manila flats at an early date can not be too urgently recommended, as the centralization of all of these depots and offices would, in a few years, save the enormous expense now brought on by hauling supplies, etc., from the scattered depots to the places of shipment.

The question of securing suitable clerks for duty in the office of the adjutant-general has become a serious one; it has already been taken up with the War Department in a separate communication and will therefore not be dwelt upon further here.

In regard to the records, the adjutant-general reports as follows:

There has been practically no change in the method of keeping the records at these headquarters during the year. The mere fact that any paper which has been made of record in this office since the organization of the card-record system in 1900 can be easily and quickly found is evidence the method used in the card-record system at these headquarters is a good one.

DEPARTMENT OF LUZON.

During the past year the following stations have been abandoned: Samal, San Mateo, Calapan, Balayan, Naic, and Aparri, while the following have been established: Macabebe, Grande Island, Naic, Bulalacao, and Nasugbu.

The conditions for peace in this department have been such that there has been no thought of using troops. The civil government even finds that it is able to reduce the number of constabulary in various parts.

There is at present in the city of Manila the headquarters and two battalions of the Twenty-sixth Infantry. It is believed that a full regiment should be kept here to perform the necessary guard duty over the storehouses and depots, for escort purposes, and as a reliable source of protection. With the headquarters and two battalions of the Twenty-sixth Infantry, the Cuartel de España is crowded to the utmost. For the use of a permanent garrison in Manila it is recommended that an appropriation be made for constructing of reenforced concrete a cuartel which shall be sufficient to accommodate a full regiment of infantry.

At Fort William McKinley the appropriation is now available for the purchase of additional land adjacent to the present reservation, which purchase will be consummated as soon as the title is assured. About 8,320 acres will be added to the reservation, thereby greatly

adding to the facilities for the proper training of the troops stationed there.

A military prison of reenforced concrete with a capacity for 102 prisoners is being constructed at this post, which will be ready for occupancy by November 15, 1908.

The water supply has been increased and additional tanks erected, so that a greater reserve is always available and better fire protection secured.

At Camp Stotsenburg there has not been nearly the amount of malaria that showed itself during the previous year, which lends encouragement to the establishment of a permanent garrison at that point. The water supply has been barely sufficient for the needs of the command, but steps are being taken looking to a supply from the Bamban River, about 3 miles away. When this is secured Camp Stotsenburg will be one of the most desirable points in these islands for a permanent garrison. The sandy character of the soil makes field exercises possible throughout the year. Being on the railroad, it can be readily supplied, and the country is of a varied character and well adapted to field instruction, the hilly country being practically uninhabited. It is believed that a permanent post of reenforced concrete might well be constructed at this point for two regiments of cavalry.

With the addition to this reservation set aside by executive order as promulgated in General Orders, No. 83, War Department, May 18, 1908, the military authorities now have a tract of land well adapted to maneuvers.

DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

Owing to the restoration of peaceful conditions throughout this department eleven stations were abandoned during the year. A number of scout companies were transferred to the departments of Luzon and Mindanao, from which they were drawn at the outbreak of the trouble.

In regard to the origin of this trouble, General Hodges, commanding the department, makes the following comments:

The petty quarrels between the hills people and those living along the coast have sometimes culminated in series outbreaks. When dignified, as at times, by religious motives, they should be properly nipped in the bud by practically teaching the hills people that justice may be obtained against their oppressors through the government in a legal manner. It is the general opinion that the hills people are quite as often wrong as are the coast dwelling and more accessible people.

All regular troops have been withdrawn from the island of Samar, which is now garrisoned by ten companies of scouts. The disposition of these companies is such as to make them most available for use if they should be required, and most convenient for supply.

It is believed that Camp Jossman is well located as a permanent post, and might be so considered if the construction of permanent barracks is taken up.

The post of Warwick Barracks, situated in Cebu, should be abandoned, as the ground is required by the civil government and the location is not desirable for military purposes.

On the friars' land near Mabolo, about 2½ miles from Cebu, there is an excellent site for the location of a post. A survey is now being made to determine the limits of a proposed reservation of about 2,000 acres. It would be highly advantageous to exchange the present reservation of Warwick Barracks for the proposed reservation on the Mabolo site. If this were done the civil authorities would obtain control of land valuable for commercial and administrative purposes, while the military authorities would have a suitable site on which a post could be erected. It would then be desirable to concentrate at this post a regiment of infantry and abandon the posts of Camp Downes and Camp Bumpus.

Cebu is the second city in the islands in point of size. It is a commercial center from which troops can be easily dispatched to any point in the islands where their services are needed. This proposed concentration would be in the interest of economy of supply and administration.

With a regimental post near Cebu and the one at Camp Jossman, near Iloilo, it is believed the proposed location of a large post on the island of Biliran would be unnecessary. While the Biliran reservation possesses some advantages it is open to the objection of being off the lines of commercial boats and distant from the centers of supply of the Visayan islands. This reservation has, however, already been set aside by executive order, as promulgated in General Orders, No. 92, War Department, May 26, 1908.

DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO.

The commanding general of this department comments very pertinently on the frequent changes in the heads of the staff departments. He says:

During the twenty-four months ending June 30, 1908, the following numbers of officers have served in this capacity in eight staff bureaus, in the proper administration of which depends the military efficiency of the troops serving in the department: Adjutants-general, 5, average time less than five months; inspectors-general, 3, average time less than eight months; chief quartermasters, 6, average time less than four months; chief commissaries, 2, average time less than twelve months; chief surgeons, 2, average time less than twelve months; chief paymasters, 3, average time less than eight months; judge-advocates, 3, average time less than eight months; chief signal officers, 5, average time less than five months.

It is believed that this same criticism could be applied to the staff departments throughout the army, the difficulty being accentuated by the detail system.

Earnest effort is made to maintain peaceful conditions among the Moro people and to develop them along commercial lines. Only that amount of military force is used which is necessary to preserve life and protect property. During the past year frequent expeditions have been necessary on the part of the regular troops, sometimes for the purpose of making a show of force and at other times for the purpose of arresting disaffected Moros. The island of Basilan has been somewhat disturbed owing to the organized hostility of the Salip Aguil, the chief Mohammedan priest of the island.

On March 30, 1908, the governor of the Moro Province made a formal request for troops to assist in disarming the lawless bands on the island. Since that date troops have been kept in the island.

The barracks and quarters in this department are, generally speaking, in the poorest condition of any in the islands. The post of Malabang is entirely constructed of nipa and bamboo, and Camp Keithley is still largely of this construction, though buildings of a semipermanent character are now being put up. It is hoped that before the end of the present year the reconstruction of this post can be completed.

The scout companies in the Cotabato Valley are poorly housed, but contracts have been let for new buildings, or where no contracts can be let materials are being delivered and the quartermaster will put up suitable buildings.

The post of Parang is nearly completed for a regiment, but present conditions make it impracticable to concentrate the regiment there.

Considerable building has been done at the post of Jolo, which is now of a semipermanent character, native wood or Oregon pine, with galvanized iron roofs.

It seems unquestionable that troops must be maintained indefinitely at Camp Keithley. It has a fine climate and is a fine location; it would therefore make for economy if the post were made of permanent material, viz, reenforced concrete.

The road between Overton and Keithley requires constant labor to keep it in repair; this item and the large amount of transportation used up during the year make it apparent that a narrow-gauge electric line should be constructed as soon as possible. The Agus River, close at hand, will furnish an abundance of water power. It is estimated that such a road can be built for \$350,000 and that it would pay for itself in five years. The electric power plant would also furnish electricity for lighting the posts of Keithley and Overton.

GENERAL STAFF CORPS.

There are at present three officers of the General Staff on duty in the division.

The bureau of military information has continued under the general charge of the chief of staff. An officer of the General Staff is in immediate control of the bureau. The various lines of work pertaining to this bureau have been carried on with excellent results. Owing to conditions heretofore existing the bureau of military information has taken up certain work of military mapping while the engineer department was engaged on similar work. With a view to consolidating the work of the two departments the system of military mapping was reorganized. A topographical board has been established which has general charge of matters relating to mapping. The proper functions are assigned to the engineer department and to the bureau of military information; thus duplication of work is prevented and a consistent plan for the mapping of the division has been prepared. The services of a large number of young officers have been utilized on this work and most excellent results have been obtained.

There have been added to the military information division 256 books, bringing the total number of books on hand up to 3,606; in addition, 132 books have been ordered but not yet received. There are received 40 newspapers and periodicals. All periodicals and the important newspapers are bound and placed on the library shelves;

all articles of military interest are indexed. The privileges of the library are extended to all naval, marine, and constabulary officers.

Much special work of a military nature has been accomplished during the year.

Three officers have been in charge of the military information division during the past year. Such frequent changes are not in the interests of the service. There should be one major and at least one captain of the General Staff on permanent duty in the military information division. These officers, before being assigned to duty in this division, should serve for a time in the Military Information Division in Washington, should have fully two years to serve in the General Staff, and their position on the lineal list should be such that they are not liable to be removed from the General Staff by promotion before the expiration of their tour in this division.

The work of the bureau of military information is very important and every assistance should be given it. The clerical force of this office should be entirely independent of any other office and should be hired and paid by the officer in charge of the bureau. The duties of this bureau are such that every provision must be made to insure trustworthy clerical assistants who can handle confidential matter. This office should have one chief clerk, at \$1,600 per annum; one clerk, at \$1,400 per annum (in charge of confidential records); one clerk, at \$1,400 per annum (in charge of topographical records); two clerks, at \$1,200 per annum (general work). These clerks should be authorized by the War Department for the use of the military information division and should be entirely in the hands of the officer in charge. With a less clerical force than this the bureau will continually be hampered and delayed in keeping its work up to date.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

All posts in the division garrisoned by American or scout troops have been inspected, with the following exceptions: Department of Mindanao, Camp Keithley, Camp Overton, Camp Vicars, Malabang, Pantar, and post of Parang.

On account of the arrival at these stations last year of troops from the United States it was thought best to defer inspections until the spring months, at which time further inspections were prevented by the limitation of trips to 250 miles.

The troops in the division are well instructed, well supplied, and well housed, with some exceptions in the Department of Mindanao. Improvements and repairs must go on each year, but generally speaking the physical condition of the troops in this division is very satisfactory.

The inspector-general reports as follows:

Swimming has been taught in many organizations, and the results as shown by inspections at posts and at the division military meet are very gratifying. Some companies by the skillful use of their packs covered long distances in the water. This method of converting the pack from a burden into a buoy should be published in such manner as will enable the army at large to benefit by it.

The report of the division military meet shows how the pack was used by different organizations to facilitate men in crossing streams.

On the subject of absent officers the inspector-general reports as follows:

Investigations have proven that most of the desertions of soldiers have been due to the constant shifting of company officers on account of the absence of those who belong to the organizations, and one of the greatest drawbacks to the progress of the army is the absent officer.

He makes the following remarks in regard to clerks:

In my opinion the clerks in the inspector-general's department should be on the same footing in pay, manner of appointment, and in every other way as those of the pay department. Then each inspector could select his clerk and train him, well knowing that the exigencies of service or prospect of promotion in another department will not deprive him of this competent assistant; the clerk, who should be a stenographer, could accompany the inspector on his tours or for special investigations, thus effecting a saving of time and labor, and while I know of no cases of disclosures, or "leaks," I believe that a clerk who is assured of his tenure of office and trained in the ethics of that office would be less likely to talk of matters passing through that office than one who is only temporarily assigned to it.

The transport service, both Pacific and interisland, has been maintained in an efficient manner. It is gratifying to note that the Pacific transports are one by one being thoroughly overhauled and repaired. Constant watchfulness and labor on the part of all concerned is required to keep vermin out of these boats.

The inspector-general, Department of Mindanao, recommends that all company officers, when promoted, be retained on duty with their regiments until a vacancy occurs, when they should be permanently assigned to it. He calls attention to the lack of loyalty on the part of the enlisted men for their officers, due to the failure to become acquainted. By this means both officers and enlisted men would become imbued with the old-time regimental spirit, a mighty element in war. Incidentally there would result a large saving in mileage.

The assistant to the inspector-general recommends that a signal detachment be organized for each regiment. He adds:

There should be not less than 24 men in each regiment who can rapidly and accurately transmit and receive messages by flag, torch, heliograph, and telegraph, who know how to construct, maintain, and operate field telegraph and telephone lines. * * * To whatever extent the Signal Corps might be increased it could never serve many of the absolutely essential purposes that would be served by proficient signal men belonging to the regiment.

He adds that the men whom we instruct in signaling will never become thoroughly proficient until they are made specialists.

As our National Guard becomes more thoroughly trained and better able to take its place in the first line of defense we could well afford to subtract somewhat from the fighting strength of our regular regiments for the purpose of obtaining the thoroughly trained specialists, such as pioneers, signal men, telegraphers, etc.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The attention of the division commander being invited to the fact that the number of trials by courts-martial was excessive, in August, 1907, he sent the following letter to department commanders:

The division commander directs me to invite your attention to the large number of trials in the division by summary courts, a total of 10661 during the past year. It is believed that many of these trials could have been obviated by the use of disciplinary measures within the control of organization

commanders, and it is desired that this proceeding be followed whenever it can be done without interference with discipline.

That his suggestion produced beneficial results is shown by noting the number of trials by summary courts in 1907 and 1908, as follows:

Year.	Luzon.		Visayas.		Mindanao.		Total.	
	Strength.	Trials.	Strength.	Trials.	Strength.	Trials.	Strength.	Trials.
1907	7, 296	5, 190	4, 570	3, 038	4, 778	2, 468	16, 614	10, 681
1908	7, 946	4, 164	4, 126	1, 340	4, 170	2, 044	16, 242	7, 548

Trials by general courts in 1908:

Luzon	309
Visayas	112
Mindanao	166

It is firmly believed that the reduction in the number of trials by summary courts has not lowered the standard of discipline.

The Department of the Visayas has made the most marked improvement in reducing the number of trials. On June 30 there was one less regiment of regular troops in this department, but their place was partially filled by additional scout companies, as shown by the strength in 1907 and in 1908.

In the Department of Luzon the men are subjected to the greatest temptations, and in the Department of Mindanao to the least. The judge-advocate, Department of Luzon, makes the following remarks on this subject:

It has become the habit to ascribe these trials to young and inexperienced company commanders. Company commanders are undoubtedly responsible for most of the efficiency or inefficiency of their companies, but it is believed that the responsibility for excessive trials rests elsewhere. It is the older and more experienced officers, higher up, that should be held responsible.

I believe that a continuation of the present policy will show a further decrease in the number of trials by summary courts, but as new officers are constantly arriving at post-command rank it will be necessary for department commanders to call attention to this matter from time to time.

The judge-advocate of the division speaks of his observations in the disciplinary measures used among the English troops in Hongkong, of which he has had opportunity to make observation. There are about 2,500 European and 2,000 native or Indian troops stationed in Hongkong and Kowloon, just across the harbor. During the year ending December 31, 1907, there were 29 trials among the European troops and 6 among the native troops. These trials correspond to our trials by general courts; they have no summary courts, so called, although the commanding officer imposes punishments corresponding to those administered by our summary courts.

The name of the military prison in Hongkong has been changed to Detention Barracks. It is believed that in accordance with modern ideas on sociology we might well adopt a similar change, and that the designation of the men confined as provided in paragraph 935, A. R., promulgated in General Orders, No. 106, War Department, May 13, 1907, might well be changed from "convict" to something that will not suggest the criminal, unless they have committed crimes as known to the civil law.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

CONSTRUCTION.

A definite policy of construction should be settled on at once for all future buildings for the use of the military in these islands.

We have held them long enough to know them thoroughly, and to know definitely where our garrisons of regular troops should be located. At all of these points nothing but reenforced concrete buildings should be erected.

Without venturing to predict how long we shall occupy the islands, there can be no question as to the economy of this class of buildings. The short life of frame buildings is so well known that it seems folly to put up more of them. No construction should be undertaken which does not carry with it funds sufficient to provide for reenforced concrete buildings.

RENTALS.

The military authorities should determine as promptly as possible the location of permanent garrisons, not only to enable a building programme to be decided upon but also for the purpose of acquiring land and buildings and thereby terminating rentals.

The following is taken from the report of the chief quartermaster, Department of the Visayas:

Large sums are expended annually for rentals, but do not represent by considerable the actual obligation of the Government for the land occupied, for the reason that many owners have failed to secure title and many will not enter into lease at all, as they claim to have no faith in the representations made them.

Some can not be gotten to sign papers under any conditions, claiming they can not afford the expense of survey, preparation of maps, and cost of registration.

With each year the amount required will increase until government ownership ends it, which will not be for a considerable period in all probability.

Efforts to terminate agreements for purchase of property have not resulted in as prompt action as might be wished, and the native owner can not well understand why it requires months of delay before the receipt of word of some kind as to the intentions of the Government. In one or two instances deeds for property forwarded through regular channels for the action of the Attorney-General of the United States have remained unanswered for over a year, and this fact not only created suspicion in the minds of the owners, but obstinate refusal to enter into any further negotiations with the Government.

CLOTHING.

During the year the quartermaster's department purchased in the local market, after duly advertising, 193,000 yards of khaki, which was manufactured into uniforms for the scout soldiers, it being practically impossible to secure sizes sufficiently small and of proper proportions for these soldiers. These uniforms were made entirely by Filipino tailors.

The result of this digression from the usual channel of supply was so satisfactory to the officers and men concerned that further contracts were let for the present fiscal year for an additional supply of khaki cloth, and other contracts have been let for its manufacture into uniforms. In this connection the chief quartermaster of the division reports as follows:

It is estimated that in the manufacture of these uniforms at the prices obtained for both the khaki material and the manufacture of the clothing there will be a saving to the government of approximately \$63,000.

Tests are being made with 2,000 pairs of woolen puttees, which were issued to infantry troops serving in the division. Reports of regimental commanders have not yet been made showing comparison with the canvas leggin now in use.

PUBLIC ANIMALS.

The annual report of public animals shows 7,251 of all classes on hand. The average age is over 12 years, and the average length of service in the islands is over five years. During the year 1,010 animals have died or been destroyed, but fully 80 per cent of this number was on account of old age or chronic unsoundness.

Marked progress has been made during the last few years in keeping down the ravages of surra and glanders. The report of the Quartermaster-General for 1902 shows that 1,988 horses and 1,705 mules died or were destroyed on account of surra and glanders, while during the past year only 25 have died of these diseases. There have been sporadic cases, but no spread of either disease has occurred.

PACIFIC TRANSPORT SERVICE.

Crowding on the Pacific transports would be reduced if the arrival and departure of regiments could be arranged so that one regiment would be relieved every two months. The last regiment to leave these islands (the First Infantry) sailed on May 15, 1908; the next one to go will be the Tenth Cavalry, which is due to sail in April, 1909. Following this, one regiment sails each month, until all now in the islands have been relieved. During this period of twelve months there will be but very limited accommodations for casuals, officers and men. If it could be arranged so that a regiment would leave every other month, the alternate boats could be given up to casuals. Until this arrangement can be brought about, transports should sail every twenty days during the period when regiments are changing.

INTERISLAND TRANSPORTS.

The interisland transport service has been maintained by the *McClellan*, *Seward*, *Warren*, *Wright*, and *Liscum*. The first named was in service from July 1 to November 29, 1907, while the others were in use the full year; the *Liscum*, however, was used much of the time as a cable ship.

If any further argument is needed to demonstrate the economy of government-owned boats it is to be had from the services rendered by the above boats. The expense of operating the *McClellan*, including the cost of repairs, was \$65,871.14, while the total credits, based on commercial rates, was \$75,773.34, resulting in a saving of \$9,902.20. The total expense of operating the *Seward*, including the cost of repairs, was \$89,840.51; her total credits, based on commercial rates, amount to \$217,065.02, a net saving of \$127,224.51. The total expense of operating the *Warren*, including the cost of repairs, was \$107,526.50; her credits, based on commercial rates, amounted to \$138,810.93, or a saving of \$31,294.43. The corresponding figures for the *Wright* show expenses, \$113,865.29, credits, 8,644.14, a loss of \$27,221.15, due to extensive repairs, 1 to \$41,525.13. For

the *Liscum* the figures are, expenses, \$57,731.91, credits, \$85,946.02, or a saving of \$28,214.11.

The above figures tabulated are as follows:

Ship.	Total expenses.	Credits.	Loss.	Savings.
McClellan	\$65,871.14	\$75,773.34	.....	\$9,902.20
Beward	89,840.51	217,065.02	.....	127,224.51
Warren	107,526.50	138,820.93	.....	31,294.43
Wright	113,866.29	86,644.14	\$27,221.15	.....
<i>Liscum</i>	57,731.91	85,946.02	.....	28,214.11
Total	434,835.35	604,249.45	27,221.15	196,685.25
				27,221.15
Net saving				169,464.10

In a similar manner, the chief quartermaster in his report shows that the government-owned launches have saved \$117,963.08, as it would have cost that much more to have chartered launches from commercial firms. The same report also shows a decrease of \$28,193.31 in the expense of the launch service over that for the previous year.

A machine shop and a dry dock large enough to accommodate launches are under construction, which, when completed, will enable a large saving to be made, as then the launches used in the southern islands can be repaired there at a much less expense than in Manila, without the long trip up here and back.

CLERKS.

The following is taken from the report of the chief quartermaster, Philippines Division, in which I fully concur:

The matter of promotion of civilian clerks of the quartermaster's department in these islands demands serious consideration, and attention is invited to the fact that no little unrest and dissatisfaction exist among this class of employees, due to the decision of the Secretary of War that no promotions can be made in the Philippine Islands when clerks of higher grade are returned to the United States for duty. During the past year very few clerks of the higher grades were sent to the Philippine Islands to replace men who were ordered home, and the vacancies had to be filled through the Philippine civil service board or emergency appointments at the entrance salary of \$1,200. * * *

A large percentage of the clerks are, and have been for years, employed at a low compensation, with no hope of promotion except by the death or resignation of a clerk in a higher grade.

It would seem that some hope of advancement could and should be held out to employees with long service in the islands who have performed faithful work.

I believe that the tour of duty in the Philippine Islands for all classified clerks should be made three years, and that at the end of that time they should be relieved, unless they desire to remain longer, in which case they should be retained for one more year only. It is of material assistance to a man in coming here to know how long he is to be absent from the United States.

PACKERS.

The following is taken from the report of the chief quartermaster of the division:

Attention is invited to a very deserving class of civilian employees who, so far, have received no consideration in the matter of alternating service here

and in the States. I refer to the packers. They are technical men whom we should endeavor to retain in the service. In order to do so their claims to an occasional tour of duty at home should be recognized. Steps should be taken to relieve a portion of them every year by a like number from the States.

BATAN COAL MINES.

The work of developing these mines has been commenced and it is believed that by the end of the present fiscal year, June 30, 1909, the amount of coal available and its value for military and naval uses will be well known.

The depot quartermaster, New York City, secured several practical miners to take direct charge of the work, and also purchased the necessary machinery for carrying it on. The men reached Manila in November, 1907, although the machinery did not arrive until January, 1908.

As soon as the personnel of the expedition arrived in Manila it was sent to Batan Island November 9 via transport *McClellan*, and the preliminary work of developing the coal field, including preliminary surveys, location of mine entries, construction of quarters, storehouses, etc., was begun and carried forward as rapidly as conditions and circumstances would permit.

In view of the apparently inaccurate charts of the harbor at Batan Island, request was made on the insular government for a new hydrographic survey, which has now been made, and the proper charting and marking of the harbor has been accomplished.

Up to the present time (September, 1908), no regular production from the mines has been attempted; the output, which averages approximately 20 tons per working day, coming from the direct driving of the various entries.

In the meantime drilling work has been going on continuously in order to determine the areas and volume of coal for future production.

Tests of the coal produced by these mines have been made on inter-island transports and on several navy vessels on this station, and the results, while developing some peculiarities, have been generally satisfactory.

The military stations of Camp Daraga, Tagabiran, Oras, and Borongan are now being supplied with coal from these mines.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

It is recommended that ice machines, distilling and cold-storage plants be transferred to this department. Their work has to do solely with the preservation of food supplies and they should therefore be under the department that has charge of these matters. Their location and the plans for their construction should be submitted to the chief commissary of the department for suggestions and final approval.

The buildings should be constructed, machinery placed, and all kept in repair by the quartermaster's department, as is the case with hospitals.

A cold-storage plant placed close to the subsistence storehouse in a post could be made of great value for the storage of salt meats, butter, lard, olive oil, etc.

On account of the distilling plant they are usually placed close to the water supply; it is believed that a little greater initial expense in piping water would save much in the transportation of distilled water and ice and in the increased serviceability of the plant. The same recommendations as above are made in regard to bakeries. They should be constructed on plans approved by the chief commissary and kept in repair by the quartermaster's department, but should be under the sole management of the subsistence department.

A further advantage from the above would be a reduction in the work required of post quartermasters, which in most cases is too great.

The subsistence department is furnishing all the fresh fruit to this division that it can with the present facilities for preservation on transports. As opportunity affords, the amount of cold-storage room on these boats should be increased so that at least 500 cases could be brought over each month for distribution in the islands. The desirability and need for fresh fruit are manifested by the eagerness with which officers and enlisted men rush for the limited quantity that is now brought over from month to month. At present it is only about once in three or four months that the enlisted men are able to get any.

Under peace conditions the 10 per cent extra charged civilian employees and other executive bureaus for commissary stores is found to be unnecessary to cover losses, and unless the purpose is to make the prices correspond more nearly to those of local merchants, it is recommended that subsistence stores be sold to civilian employees at the regular rate, and to other departments at an increased cost of only 5 per cent. On the other hand, the cost of cold storage on the fresh beef and fresh mutton sold to the Navy and Marine Corps should be added to the present price. The increase is about 1.218 cents per pound, which during the present year has caused a loss to the subsistence department of \$11,726.58.

The post of Camp Keithley should have its own ice and cold-storage plant. By the time that fresh meat has been brought up from Camp Overton it is pretty well thawed out and therefore has to be cooked at once, as it will not keep long in ice boxes. As a consequence this post is often without fresh meat.

The experiment of giving scout companies the money value of their rations and having them purchase their supplies in the local markets has not been in operation long enough to enable one to speak conclusively as to the result.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The number of changes among the medical officers of this division has been greater this last year than it will be during succeeding years, as the reduction in the tour of duty from two and one-half to two years has been completed.

On July 1, 1907, there were 1,005 of all classes of the Medical Department on duty in the division. During the year 1,082 joined, while at the date of this report 983 remained on duty, which would indicate an almost complete change in personnel during the year.

Company D of the Hospital Corps was organized under authority of the Secretary of War, and is now stationed at Fort William

McKinley; it is designated to man field hospital No. 12, the material for which is at that post.

Field hospital No. 13 is organized and stationed at Camp Jossman, while No. 14 is in process of organization, with station at Zamboanga. Material for two other field hospitals, Nos. 25 and 26, is being assembled.

Recruits for the Hospital Corps have been obtained almost exclusively by transfer from the line, particularly from regiments returning to the United States. There is no trouble in securing a sufficient number of men, but there is trouble from the short period of service remaining, in most cases less than a year.

Three privates sanitary are now selected from each company of scouts. They are under instruction at their respective post hospitals and reports indicate that ultimately they will become efficient in hospital work. They labor under the marked disadvantage of not understanding English well.

The chief surgeon believes that the abolition of the contract surgeon and his reappearance as a commissioned officer of the Medical Reserve Corps will conduce to the efficiency of the service by giving status to a very important body of professional men who heretofore have been without such.

During the year there have been completed 7,496 identification records; 10,836 employees are shown on the monthly statements of posts as entitled to medical treatment. The work involved in the care of this large number of camp followers should be reckoned with in determining the quota of medical personnel for duty in this division.

The health of the command shows a very satisfactory improvement. The admission rate per 1,000 was 1,456.82, against 1,700.32 for the calendar year 1906.

The death rate for the last year has been 6.50 per 1,000, as against 8.50 last year and 6.11 for the whole army in 1906. The death rate for disease was only 3.65 per 1,000, as against 5.25 last year and 3.28 per 1,000 for the entire army. The constant noneffective rate per 1,000 was 45.67, against 49.5 for the last year and 49.79 for the whole army in 1906.

There have been two epidemics of cholera, one in the Department of Mindanao, which caused five deaths, and one in the Department of Luzon, which caused four deaths; of these nine deaths four were regulars and five scouts. In each of these epidemics many natives died in the surrounding country. That the losses in the army have been so few was due to the most stringent quarantine measures and to constant watchfulness on the part of all concerned.

The sick reports of departments in which colored troops are serving indicate a considerably higher nonefficiency rate for them than for either white or native troops.

The medical steam laundry has continued to render valuable service. During the year it has laundered approximately 450,000 pieces, at an average cost of \$1.22½ per 100.

I desire to express my full appreciation of the services rendered by the dental surgeons and the Army Nurse Corps.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

It is believed that when the full benefits of the recent increase of pay granted the army have been developed it will be found that this measure was a very wise one. Living conditions have changed so much within the last thirty-five years that some measure of this kind was most urgently needed in order to maintain an efficient army.

The increase granted the officers, especially those of the lower grades, had become an urgent necessity, to enable them to live becomingly and keep out of debt.

The increase granted the noncommissioned officers should give us once more the old, experienced men, without whom the army has been deteriorating and desertions have been increasing.

Sentences of courts-martial should be expressed in terms of dollars and cents rather than in terms of monthly pay. This latter practice has nothing to recommend it and leads to great confusion in the preparation of pay rolls.

I urgently recommend that relief be given the paymasters' clerks. I think they are to-day the poorest paid of any of the military employees, considering the work required and the responsibilities imposed.

A bill known as Senate bill 5491 has been introduced in that body and a similar one has been introduced in the House, which I commend as placing these men on a substantial basis.

Paymasters' clerks in the navy were given a substantial increase during the last session of Congress. It therefore becomes more urgent that relief should be afforded men holding similar positions in the army.

CHIEF ENGINEER.

As showing the increased use of maps and blueprints in our service, this department reports that during the year it has issued 10,664 blueprints.

~~Mapping work has been transferred from the bureau of military information to the engineer department.~~ By General Orders, No. 9, Headquarters Philippines Division, current series, a topographical board was organized which is now engaged in surveying and reconnaissance work, compiling from all available maps and making tracings and blueprints. Prior to January 1 of each year this board submits to the division commander its projects for the ensuing year.

The work was systematically organized February 26, 1918, since which time there have been seven surveying parties at work. The average time spent in the field has been three and one-half months. With the advent of the rainy season it was necessary to discontinue field work and take up the work of plotting field notes and compiling from other data.

This work is valuable to young officers, teaching them to take care of themselves and their men in the field and cultivating their faculties for observing and learning country. It is unequaled as practical instruction in map making and map reading.

The equipment prescribed in paragraphs 1 and 2, General Orders, No. 73, War Department, 1907, which includes note books, sketching cases, prismatic compasses, hand levels, clinometers, pace tallies, etc., is in the hands of all company commanders; these organizations should now be ready for any reconnaissance mapping.

Except during instruction in reconnoissance and surveying and the necessary instruction in the duties of infantry it is essential to the efficiency of engineer companies that they be kept well in hand, near the depot, and close to water suitable for bridge and pontoon work.

Owing to the large number of instruments now in this division and the difficulty of getting repairs made in Manila it is recommended that a good instrument maker be sent here. During spare time he could look after the preservation of instruments not in use, to prevent deterioration from climatic conditions.

The fortification board, organized by General Orders, No. 255, War Department, series of 1907, dated December 30, has taken up its work and is prosecuting it systematically and vigorously. First, attention is being given to the entrances to Manila Bay and to the entrance to Subig Bay.

The ordnance for these fortifications is on hand and will be placed as promptly as construction work will permit. In the meantime guns, ammunition, and matériel are all well cared for.

As fast as their services are needed and shelter can be provided for them additional companies will be requested.

More detailed reports concerning this work will be made to the War Department from time to time.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The work of installing the seacoast armament having commenced, a great deal of additional work has been thrown on the Manila depot.

The new United States magazine rifles, caliber .30, model of 1903, chambered for model 1906 ammunition, were received at the depot and distributed to troops throughout the division during the months of February and March, 1908, and the model 1903 rifles formerly in the hands of troops were turned in to the Manila ordnance depot.

The first shipment was received February 3, 1908, and by the time the target season opened, March 15, 1908, all troops in the division, including scouts, about 16,000 in all, were rearmed. The new rifles are giving good satisfaction. But few breakages in service have so far been reported. Only five stocks have been reported broken, a marked improvement over the results with the model 1903 rifle when first issued. A few other minor breaks have occurred and special reports have been made in the case of four peculiar accidents. The .22 caliber rifle for use in gallery practice has been supplied to all troops in the division and reports indicate that it is favorably regarded.

Heretofore, on account of the higher pay received by ordnance soldiers, it has been possible to secure by transfer from the line of the army the most desirable material to fill vacancies; in view of recent legislation more nearly equalizing the pay of ordnance and line soldiers it is doubtful if this high standard of ordnance recruits can be maintained.

The Manila ordnance depot is doing excellent work in repairing equipment in the hands of troops; much property formerly condemned and destroyed is now repaired and ready for use.

New cartridge belts, gun slings, and all the troops

The ordnance work on the fortifications at Fort Wint, Grande Island, and at Fort Mills, Corregidor Island, is progressing satisfactorily. The work of the engineers necessarily precedes the installation of ordnance. Both departments are pushing work as rapidly as possible. The building of stations and the installation of the equipment for the position-finding service is progressing rapidly at both points. A repair shop for ordnance material is being constructed at Fort Wint and a similar one has been recommended for Fort Mills.

SIGNAL CORPS.

In the period from September 15, 1902, to August 15, 1907, there was transferred from the military authorities to the insular government 3,195 miles of land lines, 68 miles of cable, and property valued at \$234,706.90.

On October 4 last was completed the transfer of the military telegraph and cable lines to the insular government. At the time there was turned over 787 miles of land lines and 1,228 miles of cable and property, valued at \$500,247.52. Previous to this final transfer of the cable—that is, between August 19 and September 26, 1907—the system was inspected and placed in good working order.

The Signal Corps is now operating 115 miles of telegraph line and 96 miles of cable, with 24 telegraph offices.

Since the transfer of the military telegraph and cable lines to the insular government there is no necessity for two companies of the Signal Corps in this division. It is recommended that the men of Company L be transferred to Company F, and that the records of the former company be returned to the United States and that the company there receive its complement of men. There should be in this division a minimum of six officers of the Signal Corps, a field officer to act as chief, two captains, one to command the company and one as chief signal officer, Department of Mindanao, and three lieutenants, two with the company and one as disbursing officer, ordnance officer, quartermaster, etc.

Most of the post telephone systems require thorough renovation, which will be accomplished during the year.

On January 5 last the insular government cable between Malabang and Zamboanga was interrupted. While under the control of the military authorities it was most difficult to keep this cable in working order, and for the time being, at least, the insular government is making no effort to restore it. In order to maintain telegraphic communication with Zamboanga, a wagon wireless set was sent to Malabang and there set up. It has since been doing very good work though it has not sufficient power to be relied upon. Its independent radius for sending messages is only 100 miles, while it is now transmitting to Zamboanga a distance of 146 miles.

Wireless communication is maintained between Zamboanga and Jolo in a very satisfactory manner. A standard 3 kilowatt set similar to that at either of the above points should be installed at Malabang.

It is recommended that the wireless plants on the trans-Pacific transports be placed in the best possible working order, and that a man be kept on each boat who is competent to operate it and to make minor repairs. At present these men are changed entirely too frequently. If ever one of our transports becomes disabled in the Pacific its salvation may depend on the work of its wireless system.

Steps have been taken looking toward the retention of the Cuartel Infanteria as a station for the Signal Corps company in Manila until suitable quarters can be established elsewhere. Under a former agreement the cuartel was to be turned over to the insular government not later than October 4, 1909, but at a more recent conference it was agreed that the military authorities should hold it for three years more.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

The results of target firing have shown a marked increase within the last two or three years. This is due largely to two causes: First, the improvements in the rifle, and second, to the added incentive in the form of additional pay to those men who attain the qualifications of expert riflemen, sharpshooters, and marksmen.

In order to simplify records and pay rolls and equalize the advantages of the additional pay it is recommended that extra compensation be allowed those enlisted men who qualify as expert riflemen, sharpshooters, and marksmen for twelve months from the date of qualification. At present a man who qualifies in January or February in the Tropics is entitled to the extra pay until the end of the next target or calendar year, a period of perhaps twenty-two months, while the extra pay of one who qualifies in July or August in a northern latitude terminates at the same time, a period of sixteen or seventeen months. The latter therefore receives the additional pay for approximately six months less.

Great confusion has resulted from the provisions for hold-over classifications contained in General Orders, No. 154, War Department, 1907, owing to the many unlooked-for conditions that have arisen calling for decisions.

It is believed that the principle of continuing the additional pay for hold-over classifications is wrong and that that of allowing hold-over classifications to increase the company figure of merit is still worse. The only man of the hold-over classes who has a just claim is the one who through exigencies arising in the service is not given an opportunity to requalify. His pay should be continued for one year, but he should not be carried on the company target report as having qualified in the grade for which he draws additional pay.

Collective fire should be conducted at ranges including 1,500 yards, slow fire for marksman's course to include firing at 800 and 1,000 yards, and for the sharpshooter's course 1,200 yards. Skirmish firing should commence at 800 yards.

It is recommended that paragraph 7, General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, be modified so that all enlisted men will carry in skirmish firing only the rifle, bayonet (revolver for the cavalry), belt with necessary ammunition, and the canteen filled.

CAVALRY.

Of the four regiments of cavalry in this division, three—the First, Ninth, and Tenth—are in the Department of Luzon, and one—the Sixth—in the Department of Mindanao.

The mounts of these regiments are all old, with the exception of 287 Australian horses recently assigned to the First Cavalry, and 286 of the same class assigned to the Sixth Cavalry at Jolo, enough to

mount one squadron of each regiment. If any one of these regiments was to take the field for one month, it is believed that many of the horses would give out, and probably in two months not half of them would be serviceable. Steps should be taken at once to send out at least 300 horses for each regiment, and the year following as many more should be sent.

The horses recently received from Australia are being handled and broken. Many of them are so young that it will be a year yet before they have attained their full strength and development. It is my belief that in the purchase of these horses too much was sacrificed for economy. Instead of paying an average \$100 for the horses in Australia and having them cost \$136.09 laid down in Manila, the Government should have paid \$130 or \$140 apiece in Australia; then fully grown and developed animals could have been had and only such as were thoroughly broken. In the purchase of young unbroken horses a large element of chance enters as to the number that will ever be of any service, to say nothing of the expense of maintaining these animals for a year or more until they are fully developed. Many of these horses have a strain of good blood in them and are therefore very intelligent, tractable, and courageous. I believe, however, that for the same price as good horses can be bought in Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Tennessee, and adjacent States. By paying a purchase price of \$130 or \$140, excellent horses for the cavalry and light artillery could be secured in the States referred to above.

Camp Stotsenburg is by far the best post in the division for cavalry. From the character of the soil it is practicable to have outdoor work every day in the year. The recent large addition to that reservation makes it an ideal place for cavalry training.

It is recommended that steps be taken looking to the construction of a permanent post for a regiment of cavalry on the present site of Camp Stotsenburg, and that another one be constructed in the northeastern part of the new reservation for another regiment of cavalry. Each garrison would then have full access to this fine reservation and many problems, from patrols to those for the full regiment, could be worked out.

The regiment of cavalry from Fort William McKinley and Camp Wallace should be the other one to be stationed at the new post.

The new post on the Stotsenburg reservation could readily be connected with the railroad by a spur 6 or 7 miles long from the town of Capas. There is now a fair wagon road and a telegraph line leading into the reservation from this town.

The regiment stationed at Camp McGrath has a fine drill ground and the surrounding country affords good opportunity for training cavalry.

The headquarters and two squadrons of the remaining cavalry regiment are at the post of Jolo, which has a fair drill ground and ample opportunity for training in the adjoining country.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

There are at present serving in this division one battery of the *Second Field Artillery* (mountain); the lieutenant-colonel and two *batteries of the Fourth Field Artillery* (mountain); regimental

headquarters, the colonel, lieutenant-colonel, and three batteries of the Fifth Field Artillery (light). There are no majors of field artillery in the division.

The two batteries of the Fourth Regiment belong, one to the First and one to the Second Battalion.

The batteries of the Fifth Regiment belong, two to the First and one to the Second Battalion.

This apparently haphazard designation of batteries for service here necessitates the formation of provisional battalions and serves to facilitate the absence of majors of field artillery.

There are four battalions of mountain and six battalions of light artillery in the service. It is recommended that complete battalions with a major in command be assigned for duty in this division in future. This would, with the present assignments, give the mountain artillery two years here and six years at home, and the light artillery two years here and ten years at home.

In view of the contingencies which may arise in the future, it is recommended that one full regiment of light artillery be stationed within this division. This would, if the regiment of horse artillery be included in the roster, require two years' service here to six years at home.

At present the mountain artillery is stationed in the Department of Mindanao, where it should remain. The light artillery is stationed in the Department of Luzon, one battery at Fort William McKinley and two at Camp Stotsenburg. It is intended to bring these three batteries together at one post with a view to proper battalion training.

COAST ARTILLERY.

The work on the fortifications on Grande Island, Subig Bay, and Corregidor Island, Manila Bay, having reached a point where the services of a garrison were necessary, two companies of coast artillery were sent to this division.

The office of the division artillery officer was established per authority contained in General Orders, No. 5, Headquarters Philippines Division, February 1, 1908. This order defines the duties of the division artillery officer as "analogous to those prescribed for department artillery officers in Army Regulations."

At present there are two artillery districts in this division, viz, Manila Bay and Subig Bay, which by recent orders are retained under the control of the division commander. The district of Manila Bay includes Fort Mills (headquarters and Thirty-fifth Company), Caballo Island, Carabao Island, and El Fraile Island, and the district of Subig Bay includes Fort Wint (headquarters and Fifty-seventh Company) and Chiquita Island.

The main entrance to Manila Bay is very wide (7 miles) and in places very deep (30 fathoms). Heretofore 30 fathoms has been considered a prohibitive depth for the successful planting of mines. The present project of defense includes mine fields in Boca Grande, the southern entrance to Manila Bay. It is therefore recommended that a mine company be included in those to be ordered to Fort Mills and that experiments be commenced to determine the practicability for efficient mining in these waters.

Mine planters and launches must be provided for the use of the artillery posts. At present use is being made of the U. S. S. *Pampanga* and the U. S. S. *Quiros*, kindly loaned to us by the Navy Department.

Permanent posts on Grande and Corregidor islands should be erected at once, the construction to be of reenforced concrete.

INFANTRY.

The regular infantry garrison of the division, heretofore nine regiments, was reduced during the year to eight, viz, the Fourth, Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirtieth Regiments, and are assigned to departments as follows: The Department of Luzon, three regiments (the Twenty-sixth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirtieth); the Department of the Visayas, two regiments (the Fourth and Fourteenth); the Department of Mindanao, three regiments (the Eighteenth, Twenty-third, and Twenty-fifth).

These occupy fourteen posts, three in Luzon, five in the Visayas, and six in Mindanao.

The infantry arm has kept abreast of the times in its instruction, both theoretical and practical, and results have been gratifying indeed.

The shortage of company officers, especially captains, and the small size of the companies are the chief obstacles to best results.

The remedy for the former will no doubt require legislative action. The latter has been corrected in a measure by allowing 10 extra men to each company. When recruits are received to fill the companies to the new authorized strength better conditions will prevail.

The pack for the infantry soldier should be so arranged that he can throw off all of it except the ammunition belt, bayonet, and canteen in the shortest possible time.

PHILIPPINE SCOUTS.

The services of the Philippine scout organizations have continued to be satisfactory. As the necessity for active service in the field has decreased greater attention has been paid to their training and development along the natural lines of military instruction with satisfactory results. While the military development of the scouts should be recognized in everything that will add to their efficiency, care must be exercised that they are not diverted into a copy of the regular troops. Mobility, simplicity of equipment, and ability to live on such supplies as can be obtained from the country at hand are the prime virtues of native auxiliary forces, and this fact should be kept in mind. When the scout requires the same food, clothing, and equipment as the white soldier his special value will be gone.

The recent legislation creating the grade of captain in the Philippine Scouts should result in an increased efficiency of their service. Now that promotion to the grade of captain is possible a very satisfactory performance of duty should be a condition prerequisite to such promotion. The opportunities offered to a young man appointed a second lieutenant of the scouts are now such that a high grade of potential efficiency can be insisted upon as requisite for appointment. By carefully selecting the appointees and insisting on

their professional improvement a most valuable class of officers can be procured and an efficient army established.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. I believe that the greatest need of the army to-day is a list of supernumerary officers to take the place of those who are absent on necessary details. Regimental and post commanders comment on the shortage of officers. In order to make the army an efficient training school for men who serve but one enlistment, as the majority do, it is highly important to have a complement of officers with each company in order that proper instruction may be given. General Bliss, commanding the Department of Mindanao, comments as follows:

Attention has been invited to the large number of officers necessarily absent on other duty from their commands. Officers so detached are naturally those of the higher grades and of the most experience. One of the important results of this condition is that the military courts have necessarily had an undue percentage of officers with slight experience in court-martial duty.

The records show the following regarding the regiments serving in this division:

Regiment.	Present for duty June 30, 1908.	Absent.	Per cent absent.
First Cavalry	32	19	37
Sixth Cavalry	21	29	58
Ninth Cavalry	27	22	45
Tenth Cavalry	27	20	48
Fourth Infantry	24	26	52
Fourteenth Infantry	20	30	60
Eighteenth Infantry	28	21	43
Twenty-third Infantry	20	29	59
Twenty-fifth Infantry	29	21	42
Twenty-sixth Infantry	28	23	45
Twenty-ninth Infantry	26	22	46
Thirtieth Infantry	31	16	34
Fourth Artillery	8	0	0
Fifth Artillery	13	5	28
	334	283	42

That 42 per cent of the officers are absent from their regiments here in the Philippines shows emphatically the need for a list of extra officers to take the places of those on detached service.

2. The infantry should be increased by ten regiments, as foreign service in the Philippine Islands, Cuba, and Alaska now bears excessively on the limited number of regiments in our service.

3. The reorganization of the cavalry should be taken up if we are to keep this arm active and forceful.

4. A general service corps would add greatly to the efficiency of our army in time of peace and much more so in case of active operations. In the latter case, when the greatest strain comes on the staff corps, they must call upon a large number of inexperienced men for highly important work requiring a familiarity with military supplies and methods. The absence of this familiarity endangers the supply of ammunition, rations, quartermaster stores, medical supplies, etc.

5. It is recommended that a department of transportation be created and a brigadier general placed at its head: and that it, the

quartermaster's department, and the subsistence department be juxtaposed rather than consolidated, and that a major-general be placed at the head of the whole.

6. The detail system should be discontinued in all staff corps except the adjutant-general's and inspector-general's.

In the Ordnance Department this has practically been accomplished, as all officers above the grade of captain may be redetailed without return to the line, and captains may be returned after two years with troops. As they serve four years with the corps an extra list equal to half the number of captains is all that is required to keep the corps practically permanent.

It is believed that the detail system has been tried long enough to demonstrate its undesirability.

Consider the loss in efficiency in the Signal Corps, for example, resulting from the frequent changes of instructed and experienced men for those without knowledge or experience.

In the other departments, as the quartermaster's and subsistence departments, when the detail system is worked to the limit there will not be an officer in either fit to command a depot.

7. The canteen should be restored as a feature of the post exchange. Its restoration would unquestionably greatly reduce the number of trials by court-martial. In this matter the army simply asks for local option.

8. The army appropriation bill should carry with it an item for athletics. In the division and department meets it is indispensable that prizes should be offered, though at present there is no way of providing them except by subscription either in the army or out of it, neither of which is desirable. There are some other necessary expenses, such as printing, badges, stop watches, etc.

An appropriation of \$1,000 for each department and \$2,000 for the Philippines Division meet would cover all requirements, making a total of \$15,000.

It has long been the custom to appropriate money for the purchase of prizes for rifle and pistol competitions, and it seems equally appropriate that the Government should do the same for athletic competitions.

9. Machine-gun platoons should be made independent in their organization to avoid dual control. They should be increased in personnel to avoid the necessary supernumeraries and artisans. The allowance of ammunition should be increased to at least 6,000 rounds per platoon. The members of the platoons should continue to take the regular marksman's course in target practice.

10. It is thought to be important that not only the infantry officers but all staff officers should be taught to ride and should be given the opportunity to continue the practice. To accomplish this proper mounts should be provided.

It is injurious to the service to require a colonel of an infantry regiment or a field officer of such regiment or of a staff corps to ride a horse on which he can not make a creditable appearance. By furnishing poor mounts the Government sets the example of being satisfied with mediocrity and the great majority of individuals will make no effort to raise the standard.

11. The military authorities in Manila, through the quartermaster's department, rent 183,866 cubic feet of space (5 rooms) in the

Insular Cold Storage and Ice Plant, for which they have paid during the last year \$87,138.70, a little over 12 per cent of the original cost of the whole plant. As this is only a small fraction of the space available for cold storage it seems that the price is excessive.

From the records of the office of the chief quartermaster it is found that since July 1, 1901, when the plant was turned over to the insular government by the military authorities, we have paid in rent for cold storage one and one-third times the original cost of the plant.

It is believed that a plant sufficient for the needs of the military authorities can be built for \$100,000, and it is recommended that such a plant be built on the new-made ground recently acquired from the insular government.

12. The provisions of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, series 1907, prescribing garrison and field training, seem to be much more satisfactory than were those of General Orders, No. 44, War Department, series 1906.

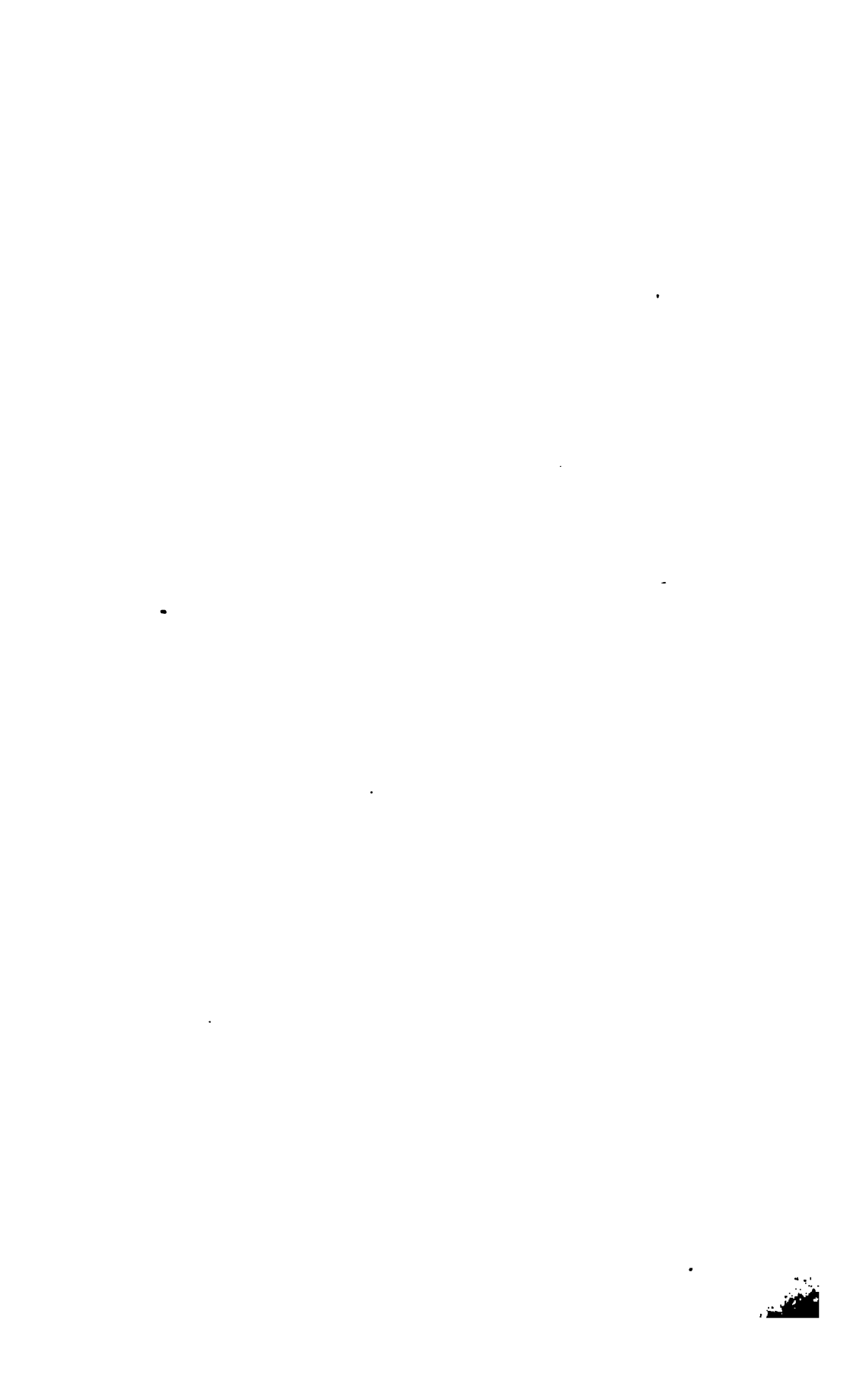
One marked improvement is the omission of the requirement that all field training and practice marches shall be made in the regulation field kit for each arm. Carrying the full field kit as a matter of training was correct in theory but was one of the marked instances where theory and practice do not correspond. This particularly true in the Tropics.

The only other marked change is the provision in General Orders, No. 177, which gives a company commander his full organization one day in each week for such instructions as he deems most necessary. This is also thought to be a marked improvement over the old order.

Respectfully submitted.

J. F. WESTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.



REPORT DEPARTMENT OF LUZON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF LUZON, *Manila, P. I., June 30, 1908.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report for the Department of Luzon for the year ending June 30, 1908:

Pursuant to General Orders, No. 10, Headquarters Philippines Division, current series, I assumed command of this department March 4, 1908, in succession of Maj. Gen. John F. Weston, and have commanded it from that date, except from March 19, 1908, to April 27, 1908, which period I spent on leave of absence in China and Japan.

Conditions of peace and order have prevailed in the department generally throughout the year, and the work of the troops serving herein has been confined to the military training prescribed in orders for garrison life.

The following usually required statistical information, including the arrival and departures of troops in the department, the changes of station therein, special movements of troops, duties performed, etc., is submitted.

The arrivals of military organizations have been as follows:

Organization.	From—	Date.
Headquarters, band, and 12 companies Twenty-sixth Infantry	United States	July 3, 1907
Troops B and I, Tenth Cavalry	do	Do.
Headquarters, band, and 12 companies Thirtieth Infantry	do	Aug. 4, 1907
Company D, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers	do	Do.
Troop M, Ninth Cavalry	do	Sept. 1, 1907
Headquarters, band, and 12 companies Twenty-ninth Infantry	do	Do.
Fifty-seventh Company, Coast Artillery Corps	do	Sept. 6, 1907
Headquarters, field, staff, and band, Fifth Artillery	do	Oct. 9, 1907
Headquarters, Second Battalion, and Twelfth, Fourteenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth Companies, Philippine Scouts	Visayas	Oct. 29, 1907
Headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, E, F, G, K, L, and M, First Cavalry	United States	Jan. 2, 1908
Twenty-sixth Company, Philippine Scouts	Visayas	Jan. 8, 1908
Twenty-sixth Company, Philippine Scouts	Corregidor	Feb. 26, 1908
Headquarters, First Battalion, and Batteries A and B, Fifth Field Artillery	United States	Mar. 18, 1908
Troops D, H, and I, First Cavalry	do	Apr. 4, 1908
Headquarters, Second Battalion, Philippine Scouts	Corregidor	June 6, 1908

The departures as follows:

Organization.	For—	Date.
Headquarters, band, and Companies A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Ninth Infantry	United States	July 15, 1907
Headquarters, band, and 12 companies, Sixteenth Infantry	do	Aug. 15, 1907
Company B, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers	do	Do.
Headquarters, band, and Companies A, B, C, D, I, K, L, and M, Thirteenth Infantry	do	Sept. 15, 1907
Companies E, F, G, and H, Thirteenth Infantry	do	Oct. 2, 1907
Headquarters, band, and 12 troops, Third Cavalry	do	Jan. 15, 1908
Twenty-sixth Company, Philippine Scouts	Corregidor	Jan. 21, 1908
Headquarters, Second Battalion, and Nineteenth Company, Philippine Scouts	do	Feb. 16, 1908
Twelfth Company, Philippine Scouts	do	Feb. 23, 1908
Headquarters, Second Battalion, and Batteries D and E, Fifth Field Artillery	United States	Apr. 4, 1908
Twenty-eighth Company, Philippine Scouts	Corregidor	June 9, 1908

The following changes in station of troops were effected during the year: July, 1907, Sixth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Samal, Bataan, on the 1st, for station at Camp Eldridge, Laguna; arrived on the 2d. Company B, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers, from Fort William McKinley, Rizal, on the 3d, for temporary station at Grande Island, Zambales; arrived on the 4th. Fifth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Boac, Marinduque, on the 5th, for station at Macabebe, Pampanga; arrived on the 7th. Fifth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Macabebe, Pampanga, on the 24th, for station at Boac, Marinduque; arrived on the 29th. Fourth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Macabebe, Pampanga, on the 9th, for station at Camp Eldridge, Laguna; arrived on the same date. Seventh Company, Philippine Scouts, from Balayan, Batangas, on the 22d, for station at Macabebe, Pampanga; arrived on the 24th. August, Sixth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Camp Eldridge, Laguna, on the 2d, for station at Macabebe, Pampanga; arrived on the 4th. Seventh Company, Philippine Scouts, from Macabebe, Pampanga, on the 4th, for station at Balayan, Batangas; arrived on the 6th. Company D, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers, arrived at Fort William McKinley, Rizal, for temporary station on the 5th. Company D, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers, left Fort William McKinley, Rizal, on the 12th, for station at Grande Island; arrived on the 13th. September, none. October, Company D, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers, from Grande Island, Zambales, on the 26th for station at Fort William McKinley, Rizal; arrived on the 27th. Thirty-first Company, Philippine Scouts, from San Mateo, Rizal, on the 31st, for station at Camp Ward Cheney, Cavite; arrived same date. November, none. December, Thirty-third Company, Philippine Scouts, from Nasugbu, Batangas, on the 3d, for station at Balayan, Batangas; arrived same date. Seventh Company, Philippine Scouts, from Balayan, Batangas, on the 4th, for station at San Mateo, Rizal; arrived on the 5th. Fourteenth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Naic, Cavite, on the 5th, for station at Camp Wilhelm, Tayabas; arrived on the 8th. Eighteenth Company, Philippine Scouts, from San Mateo, Rizal, on the 5th, for station at Camp Wilhelm, Tayabas; arrived on the 8th. First Battalion, Twenty-sixth Infantry (Companies A, B, C, and D), from Camp Wilhelm, Tayabas, on the 8th, for station at Camp Daraga, Albay; arrived on the 10th. Second Battalion, Twenty-sixth Infantry (E, F, and H), from Camp Daraga, Albay, on the 11th, for station at Cuartel de España, Manila; arrived on the 12th. January, 1908, none. February, none. March, none. April, Seventh Company, Philippine Scouts, from San Mateo, Rizal, on the 9th, for station at Bulalacao, Mindoro; arrived on the 10th. Twenty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Calapan and Bulalacao, Mindoro, on the 15th. Twenty-sixth Company, Philippine Scouts, from Naic, Cavite, on the 16th, for station at San Isidro, Nueva Ecija; arrived on the 18th. Twenty-fourth Company, Philippine Scouts, from San Isidro, Nueva Ecija, on the 18th, for station at Camp Gregg, Pangasinan; arrived on the same date. Thirty-third Company, Philippine Scouts, from Balayan, Batangas, on the 15th for station at Nasugbu, Batangas; arrived on the same date. May, none. June, none.

STATIONS ABANDONED DURING THE YEAR.

Samal, Bataan, July 1, 1907; San Mateo, Rizal, April 9, 1908; Calapan, Mindoro, April 13, 1908; Balayan, Batangas, April 15, 1908; Naic, Cavite, April 16, 1908, and Aparri, Cagayan, June 9, 1908.

STATIONS ESTABLISHED DURING THE YEAR.

Macabebe, Pampanga, August 4, 1907; Grande Island, Zambales, September 8, 1907; Naic, Cavite, February 26, 1908; Bulalacao, Mindoro, April 5, 1908, and Nasugbu, Batangas, April 5, 1908.

The following troops are now serving within the department: Company D, Hospital Corps; Company D, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers; headquarters, band, and 12 troops First Cavalry; headquarters, band, and 11 troops Ninth Cavalry (G in United States); headquarters, band, and 11 troops Tenth Cavalry (M in United States); headquarters, band, and Batteries A, B, and F, Fifth Field Artillery; Fifty-seventh Company, Coast Artillery Corps (mine); headquarters, band, and 12 companies Twenty-sixth Infantry; headquarters, band, and 12 companies Twenty-ninth Infantry; headquarters, band, and 12 companies Thirtieth Infantry; headquarters of the First, Second, Third, and Fifth Battalions, and 22 companies Philippine Scouts.

The following are the stations for troops:

STATION.	Island or province.	Troops.
Atimonan.....	Tayabas.....	Twenty-seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Boac.....	Marinduque.....	Fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Bulalacao.....	Mindoro.....	Seventh Company, Philippine Scouts.
Camp Daraga.....	Albay.....	Headquarters, First Battalion, and Companies A, B, C, and D, Twenty-sixth Infantry.
Camp Eldridge.....	Laguna.....	Headquarters, First Battalion, and First, Second, Third, and Fourth Companies, Philippine Scouts.
Camp Gregg.....	Pangasinan.....	Headquarters, Fifth Battalion, and Thirteenth, Sixteenth, Twenty-first, and Twenty-fourth Companies, Philippine Scouts.
Camp McGrath.....	Batangas.....	Headquarters, band, and Troops A, B, C, D, E, F, H, I, K, L, and M, Ninth Cavalry.
Camp Stotsenburg.....	Pampanga.....	First Cavalry, entire; headquarters, First Battalion, and Batteries A and B, Fifth Field Artillery.
Camp Wallace.....	Union.....	Headquarters, First Squadron, and Troops A, B, C, and D, Tenth Cavalry.
Camp Ward Cheney.....	Cavite.....	Headquarters, Third Battalion, and Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-first, and Thirty-Fourth Companies, Philippine Scouts.
Camp Wilhelm.....	Tayabas.....	Headquarters, Second Battalion, and Fourteenth and Eighteenth Companies, Philippine Scouts.
Cuartel de España.....	Manila.....	Headquarters, band, and Second and Third Battalions, Twenty-sixth Infantry.
Fort William McKinley.....	Rizal.....	Company D, Hospital Corps; Company D, First Battalion, Corps of Engineers; headquarters, band, and Troops E, F, G, H, I, K, L, Tenth Cavalry; headquarters, band, and Battery F, Fifth Field Artillery; Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Infantry, entire.
Fort Wint.....	Grande Island.....	Fifty-seventh Company, Coast Artillery Corps.
Infantas.....	Tayabas.....	Thirty-second Company, Philippine Scouts.
Macabebe.....	Pampanga.....	Sixth Company, Philippine Scouts.
Nasugbu.....	Batangas.....	Thirty-third Company, Philippine Scouts.
San Isidro.....	Nueva Ecija.....	Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Companies, Philippine Scouts.
SUBSTATION.		
Santo Tomas.....	Batangas.....	Detachment First Battalion, Philippine Scouts.

MARIQUINA RIVER GUARD.

A guard consisting of Troop E, Tenth Cavalry, and Company H, Thirtieth Infantry, left Fort William McKinley, Rizal, on the 7th of January, 1908, for the purpose of establishing a guard in the vicinity of the Mariquina River for the purpose of protecting the Manila water supply against infection. Subsequently this guard was increased by one troop of cavalry, F of the Tenth, from Fort William McKinley. The guard was relieved and returned to its proper station on April 8, 1908.

STAFF DEPARTMENTS.

Aids-de-camp.—First Lieut. Grosvenor L. Townsend, Twenty-third Infantry, from March 4 to 17, 1908; First Lieut. Charles C. Allen, Thirtieth Infantry, from March 4 to June 30, 1908.

Adjutant-general.—Maj. William Lassiter, adjutant-general, from July 1 to October 22, 1907; Capt. Malvern-Hill Barnum, Eighth Cavalry, aid-de-camp (acting), October 17 to 22, 1907; Maj. Ira A. Haynes, adjutant-general, from October 22, 1907, to May 11, 1908; Lieut. Col. Eugene F. Ladd, adjutant-general, from May 11 to June 30, 1908.

Judge-advocate.—Maj. Henry M. Morrow, judge-advocate, from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Chief quartermaster.—Maj. Daniel E. McCarthy, quartermaster, from July 1 to August 28, 1907; Capt. William Brooke, quartermaster, from August 28, 1907, to June 30, 1908; Second Lieut. Myron B. Bowdish, Tenth Cavalry, assistant, from July 1, 1907, to February 3, 1908; First Lieut. Frederick W. Benteen, Twenty-sixth Infantry, assistant, March 11 to June 30, 1908.

Chief commissary.—Maj. Hugh J. Gallagher, commissary, from July 1, 1907, to March 9, 1908; Capt. Lawrence B. Simonds, commissary, from March 9 to April 9, 1908; Capt. Thomas Franklin, commissary, from April 9 to June 30, 1908.

Chief surgeon.—Col. John Van R. Hoff, assistant surgeon-general, from July 1 to 24, 1908; First Lieut. George F. Juenemann, assistant surgeon, assistant, from July 1, 1907, to January 2, 1908; in charge of office from July 24 to August 5, 1907; Col. Louis M. Maus, assistant surgeon-general, and Medical Corps, from August 6, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Chief paymaster.—Lieut. Col. Hamilton S. Wallace, Pay Department, from September 4, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Ordnance officer.—Capt. Malvern-Hill Barnum, Eighth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from July 1, 1907, to March 5, 1908; First Lieut. Charles C. Allen, Thirtieth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from March 5 to 16, 1908; First Lieut. Frederick W. Benteen, Twenty-sixth Infantry, from March 16 to June 30, 1908.

Inspector of small-arms practice.—Capt. Malvern-Hill Barnum, Eighth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from July 1, 1907, to March 5, 1908; First Lieut. Charles C. Allen, Thirtieth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from March 5 to 16, 1908; First Lieut. Frederick W. Benteen, Twenty-sixth Infantry, from March 16 to June 30, 1908.

Engineer officer.—Capt. Harry F. Rethers, Ninth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from July 17, 1907, to February 17, 1908; Second Lieut. Albert

T. Rich, Twenty-sixth Infantry, from February 17 to March 5, 1908; First Lieut. Charles C. Allen, Thirtieth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from March 5 to 16, 1908; First Lieut. Frederick W. Benteen, Twenty-sixth Infantry, from March 16 to June 30, 1908.

In charge of athletics.—Capt. Malvern-Hill Barnum, Eighth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from June 15, 1907, to March 5, 1908; First Lieut. Wait C. Johnson, battalion adjutant, Twenty-sixth Infantry, assistant, from September 26 to December 31, 1907; First Lieut. Charles C. Allen, Thirtieth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from March 5 to June 30, 1908.

Surveying officer.—Capt. Harry F. Rethers, Ninth Infantry, aid-de-camp, from July 1, 1907, to March 4, 1908; Maj. Harris L. Roberts, Twenty-sixth Infantry, from March 4 to June 30, 1908.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The duties of this department have been satisfactorily performed. The clerical force of the adjutant-general's office during the year consisted of six classified clerks and one messenger, at salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,600 per annum for clerks and \$720 for messengers. However, it has been necessary to detail several enlisted men with clerical ability to assist in the dispatch of public business. The monthly average of enlisted men on duty at these headquarters in all offices has been 29½.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The important duties of inspection, not referring to the general inspections the department commander himself makes, are performed by an officer of the inspector-general's department on the staff of the division commander. This duty is assigned to him in addition to those falling to him as an assistant to the inspector-general of the division. The orders assigning the inspector to this work require him to meet the wishes of the department commander in every way consistent with his orders from the division commander. The department commander has not the authority to order him to make inspections, but such as are made are on orders given by the division commander, being based upon itineraries made by the inspector-general himself and approved by the department commander.

From the standpoint of a department commander, taking into consideration his responsibilities, no arrangement for inspection duty could be more unsatisfactory than the one referred to, which has existed in this division for several years. The inspector assigned for inspection duty acts under three masters—the division commander, the inspector-general of the division, and the department commander. The plan has not, so far as I can see, a single merit to commend it unless there is such a dearth of inspectors-general in the army as to make a combination of this kind necessary. If a department commander is to be held responsible for the efficiency and well-being of his command the assistance contemplated by law should be given him. A department commander, to keep himself properly informed of the conditions in his command, should have an officer on his staff for inspection duty who should be under his sole orders and one who would be willing to work in harmony with his endeavors and wishes. This

officer should be available to be sent out at any moment to any point within the limits of the department to make inspection or inquiries upon which he would report to the department commander, either verbally or in writing, as may be decided most advisable. The office of this officer also should be one of record, to insure prompt and ready reference. Under existing conditions the office of the inspector-general of the division is the only one of record in the division, and inquiry must be made there for any information desired regarding previous inspections.

I earnestly urge that an officer of the Inspector-General's Department be assigned for duty in this department and placed under the sole orders of the department commander, except for inspection of money accounts of disbursing officers within the department but under outside control. The assignment of an inspector-general is certainly contemplated by paragraph 195, Army Regulations, as amended by General Orders, No. 96, War Department, series 1907.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The report of the judge-advocate shows that 311 trials by general courts-martial were had during the year, as follows: Two commissioned officers, both of whom were convicted, and 283 soldiers. The latter includes two cases of discharged soldiers serving punishment. In two cases the sentences were disapproved, and there were also 26 acquittals. Thirty-five sentences awarded were reduced by the reviewing authority and clemency was extended on 25 sentences which were being served in the department where circumstances or good conduct warranted such action.

In general the proportion of trials among Philippine scouts is much less than among American soldiers, a not surprising fact considering the differences existing in racial characteristics and conditions. Seventeen scouts were tried by general courts-martial as against 292 Americans, and 452 scouts were tried by summary courts as against 3,712 American soldiers; 1,996 and 5,950, respectively, was the strength of scout and American soldiers in the department on the date of this report.

During the past year an earnest and successful effort has been made to reduce the number of trials by summary court, with a result that the percentage of trials has been brought probably much below that for the army. The method pursued in accomplishing this reduction in trials was as follows: In the latter part of August, 1907, the department commander, Maj. Gen. John F. Weston, received from division headquarters the following communication:

The division commander directs me to invite your attention to the large number of trials in the division by summary courts, a total of 10,681 during the past year. It is believed that many of these trials could have been obviated by the use of disciplinary measures within the control of organization commanders, and it is desired that this procedure be followed whenever it can be done without interference with discipline.

A copy of the above communication was referred to each post commander in the department with the following remarks of the department commander:

It is believed that a more careful scrutiny of charges by the commanding officers who refer charges for trial will lead to a reduction of the number of

trials by summary court. The determination of whether offenders shall be tried or otherwise disciplined rests with these commanding officers and not with company commanders. If the number of trials is unduly large the fault is that of commanding officers who permit charges to be referred.

In connection with the above subject, it has been noticed that frequently sentences for trivial offenses seem unduly severe, and that there is a wide difference between the punishments imposed at different posts for the same offense. If sentences are unduly severe, the fault rests with the commanding officers charged with the review of the sentence.

December 28, 1907, the department commander, by letter, reminded each post commander of the above remarks, adding that while there had been a decrease in the percentage of trials by summary courts-martial, the decrease did not seem to be as large as it should be. The following remarks were then added:

While the department commander will not attempt to control the discretion of post commanders in deciding which offenders shall be tried and which shall not, it is urged that this matter of trials by summary court be closely and personally watched, with a view of requiring company commanders to resort more to disciplinary punishment authorized by paragraph 960, Army Regulations.

The purpose of these communications was to bring it home to the post and regimental commanders that they were responsible for the large number of such trials, if the numbers were unduly large. The outcome shows that they have met their responsibility and have carried out the department commander's wishes, resulting in a great reduction in the number of trials without a weakening of discipline. It is due to the personal attention given by post commanders that this great reduction must be ascribed. As the judge-advocate of the department rightly remarks:

It has become the habit to ascribe these trials to "young and inexperienced" company commanders. Company commanders are undoubtedly responsible for most of the efficiency or inefficiency of their companies, but it is believed that the responsibility for excessive trials rests elsewhere. It is the older and more experienced officers, higher up, that should be held responsible. The army is, very properly, sensitive to the wishes of the senior line officers in matters of discipline. If the senior line officers make it known that they wish to reduce the number of trials, reduction will take place at once. If the War Department emphatically indicates to post and regimental commanders that the number of summary court trials must be reduced, and that they will be held responsible for a failure in this respect, it is believed that a resort to company discipline will make a jump and the number of trials will signally fall off.

The judge-advocate reports that the amendment of paragraph 992, Army Regulations, made by General Orders, No. 42, War Department, March 1, 1907, has greatly increased the clerical labor in the office of the judge-advocate. The unchecked practice in several departments of not copying the specifications in full in the order of promulgation suggests that a description, but not a verbatim copy, of offenses of which convicted will accomplish the desired result of giving the prison officers the nature of the offense committed. He renews his former recommendation, and I concur, that "unless experience shall show that decided advantage will result, it is believed the additional clerical labor required should be seriously considered, with a view to possibly rescinding the order."

The judge-advocate also renews his recommendation of last year that legislation be enacted to provide for an adequate force of competent and well-paid clerks for the judge-advocate's department, and that the present method of detailing a clerk from the office of the adjutant-general is always uncertain in its results and at its best is unsatisfactory.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

This department has performed its many functions in a satisfactory manner generally, and supplies are now being received more promptly than was the case last year. Such delays as have occurred in the filling of estimates have been due, it appears, to the nonreceipt of stores from the United States. It would seem that delays of this nature could be very much reduced if supplies of articles in common use could be kept on hand at the San Francisco depot. The use of mowing machines and lawn mowers at posts for cutting grass is essential in keeping down the pest of mosquitos. Instances are common where machines have been out of commission for considerable periods of time owing to the delay in receiving parts that have been broken. It is recommended that a larger supply of such parts of these machines be kept on hand in Manila to be issued promptly when required. The supplies of clothing have been adequate and the quality thereof generally good, though the American khaki is still justly a subject of much complaint on account of its fading after washing and being too heavy. The clothing made in the Philippines from English khaki is highly recommended at all posts where it has been issued.

The most important present needs in this department are the following:

The furnishing of a water supply at Camp Stotsenburg, Pampanga, adequate for all purposes, including fire protection, which is now lacking. Such a supply can be furnished from the near-by Bamban River, and it is to be hoped that if necessary funds are available definite action will be taken to make this fine and ample supply available for use.

Proper quarters must be provided for the regimental headquarters and three batteries of field artillery serving in this department. It is recommended that quarters be prepared at Fort William McKinley, Rizal. Two of the batteries are now stationed at Camp Stotsenburg and are quartered in nipa buildings, which are in a bad condition and inadequate and not worth repairing. There should also be built at Fort William McKinley quarters for three staff officers, a field officer's set for the adjutant-general of that command, and two captains' sets for the quartermaster and commissary officers, respectively.

A serious deficiency in cavalry and officers' mounts, and also draft animals, exists in this department. The Ninth Cavalry, for example, is short about 200 horses. Machine-gun platoons are not supplied with suitable pack animals, many of those in use being unsuited for the work and too old. The Australian horses recently purchased and assigned to troops at Camp Stotsenburg will not, in my judgment, prove to be satisfactory; not because suitable horses can not be obtained in Australia, but due to the character of the ones bought. Experience at home has shown it is a mistake to purchase unbroken and immature horses and immediately assign them to a regiment. The efficiency of the regiment as a whole is impaired and the considerable time of officers and men that must be spent in handling such animals can ill be spared from other important training. From what I have been able to observe, I believe \$20 to \$25 per head more would have unquestionably bought mature and broken horses, and this additional expenditure in the end would prove to be real economy. The Australian horses bought, as a rule, were unbroken and many

were but 3 years of age. It will be two years before these young horses can be depended upon for hard service which may be required at any moment.

In the matter of officers' mounts for infantry commands, the animals now furnished are, as a rule, unfitted for the purpose, being supplied from old and partly worn-out cavalry mounts. Horses of this character necessarily make their riders appear ridiculous before their commands and consequently affect discipline adversely. It is recommended that in the future purchase of horses those specially adapted as mounts for officers be set aside for that purpose and supplied to commands when required.

The adoption of a khaki helmet of a military pattern for garrison wear in the Tropics is recommended as a step conducive to the health and comfort of the troops. The present cap affords no protection from the sun, and the campaign hat, in the opinion of many officers, is unsuited for garrison wear, being unduly hot and lacking proper ventilation. This hat would be greatly improved for wear in these islands if a ventilatory band one-fourth of an inch thick was placed inside at the brow band to admit the circulation of air around the head. The crown of the hat, which should be worn in peak form to shed water, should be 1 inch higher, with good ventilators on the sides. The adoption of a helmet and the change suggested in the campaign hat would without question prevent headaches and slight attacks of heat strokes now common, especially in the hot season.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The supplying of the posts of this department with rations, sales stores, fresh meat, and vegetables has, with certain exceptions, been satisfactory. A change has been made during the year in the amount of supplies sent to the posts. Two months' supplies are now kept on hand at every post. This arrangement is more satisfactory than the one in force last year when the supplies were furnished on a three months' basis—one month's supply on hand, one due, and one to be supplied—which not only caused dissatisfaction at posts and confusion at shipping points, but entailed numerous extra shipments.

The year shows a gratifying reduction in losses through deterioration of subsistence stores, a result which has been brought about by more efficient supervision on the part of post commissaries combined with the transfer of surplus stores from one post to another (when such surplus become manifest). The gain made in the reduction of losses of this nature amounts to \$1,042.75. This gain, however, is offset by an apparent increase in loss on subsistence property of \$705.73 which has occurred through the condemnation of field ranges, field ovens, and bakery supplies turned over to the subsistence department by the quartermaster's department, and is due to the fact that most of these articles were worn out in service when transferred, having been in use several years.

It is recommended that a more liberal policy than that now in force be adopted in supplying troops throughout the islands with apples, American oranges, lemons, and grape fruit, and with sugar-cured meats. The troops, both officers and men, crave the fruits mentioned, and sugar-cured meats are more palatable than salt-cured—facts which a zealous commissary department, as with any other busi-

Attention is invited to the following recommendations of the chief commissary of the department, which are concurred in, and with the recommendation that consideration be given to the question of putting them into effect throughout the army:

Refrigerator plants.—It is believed that it would be a good business proposition to turn over the ice-making and cold-storage plants to the subsistence department. The quartermaster's department really has no interest in such plants, as they are installed and operated for but one purpose, viz, to preserve food and to render water palatable to American troops. Consequently the commissary is the only one interested, as everything pertaining to the purchase, storage, and issue of food should be performed by the subsistence department. The building, of course, should be constructed by the quartermaster's department, as that is one of its specialties, and which it is well qualified to perform, but the arrangement, insulation, and equipment should always be in accordance with the wishes of the subsistence department. In fact, it would be better to have that department purchase and install the machinery and equipment in the same manner as is done in post bakeries. This would insure better and more economical results than the present method, as the same department would then purchase and operate the plant and purchase and distribute the stores for whose preservation it is provided. It is recommended meanwhile that these cold-storage plants be modernized by installing in each one overhead rails and trolley hooks so that the heavy meat can be put on the rails at the wagon or car and moved to any desired point with the minimum labor and cost. This simple and cheap device will reduce cost of handling 75 per cent and increase the quantity that can be stored by 25 per cent over the present antiquated method of hanging from ceiling hooks. It will save the quartermaster's department money in reducing time of teams and laborers, and will save the subsistence department in reducing labor of handling meat.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The health conditions in the department show an improvement over that of the previous year. The admission of sick per thousand being 1,348, as against 1,600 for the fiscal year 1907, which is a decided gain for the better. The greater per cent of sickness arising from malaria and other preventable diseases. The former was reduced one-half, it is believed, if all quarters occupied by troops many

screened, and sufficient funds for this purpose should be obtained. Nothing more can be done with the other of this class of disease beyond that accomplished by the precautions now taken without the co-operation of the municipal authorities of the pueblos adjoining military reservations.

A serious epidemic of cholera existed in the province of Pangasinan, which for a time threatened the post of Camp Gregg situated therein, two cases having appeared among its garrison of Philippine scouts. Two officers doing mapping work in the province were also stricken and taken to Camp Gregg. Through the energetic measures of the chief surgeon of the department the danger was averted and the cases confined to the ones above mentioned. He personally inspected Camp Gregg and promptly brought to an end insanitary conditions in the vicinity by his tact and judgment in dealing with and enlisting the assistance of the municipal authorities of the adjacent pueblos.

It is an interesting fact, as shown by the statistics of the department, that colored troops suffer more from diseases than white troops, and seem to be therefore not as well fitted constitutionally for service in the tropics as white troops. For example: During the month of April at Fort William McKinley, a mixed garrison, the percentage of sick among the white troops was 43.35, while amongst the colored troops it was 92.60. A comparison of yearly percentages throughout the department shows noneffectiveness of white troops, due to general causes, to have been 30.26 to 61.04 among the colored troops.

A considerable number of Philippine scouts have been discharged for disability existing prior to enlistment and which the recruiting officers failed to discover. The terms of service of a large percentage of Philippine scouts expired during the latter part of 1907, and the discharges above mentioned occurred among the recruits enlisted to take their place. These enlistments having now been placed under the jurisdiction of department commanders, steps have been taken to provide for a more thorough physical examination of recruits to prevent the enlistment of those unfitted for service.

The following is quoted from the report of the chief surgeon of the department:

One hundred and twenty-nine men were transferred to the hospital corps in this department during the fiscal year and 24 sent into it from the department of the Visayas, who had been but recently transferred. The majority of these men came from regiments about to return to the States, and transferred for their own convenience, having little or no interest in hospital work. The principal reasons were to avoid drawing a clothing outfit on their arrival in San Francisco, and to secure mileage from that point to place of enlistment, which would have been lost if returned with respective regiments. A desire to remain in the islands in order to continue relations with queridas also inspired a large number of such men to request transfers. On the whole the services of these men are unsatisfactory and they do not make suitable men for hospital work, nor do they take any interest in learning the duties of that important branch of the service, as has been shown at the Fort William McKinley school of instruction for the hospital corps, organized about the beginning of the last fiscal year.

The conclusions of the chief surgeon are approved. I believe the reasons set forth by him influence many of the transfers from regiments ordered to the United States. In future it is recommended that only soldiers of very good characters and of good health, who can show that they intend to remain in the islands, be permitted to transfer to incoming regiments.

I heartily approve the recommendation of the chief surgeon that where posts have been established with any degree of permanency that crematories be installed to dispose of the waste of the post, including stable manure, and that proper sewer systems be introduced. The disposal of waste matter in the majority of posts is unsatisfactory and is detrimental to the health of the commands and to the inhabitants of the surrounding country.

A number of the troops in the department are still using the gold medal cot. These should be immediately substituted by the new quartermaster bunk, and if it is possible to increase and expedite the supply now being furnished it should be done. The cots are uncomfortable as a permanent bed, and, besides, it is impossible to adjust the mosquito bar while in use. The cots are so narrow that parts of the body exposed to the sides of the bars are bitten by mosquitos, thus causing infection which brings on fever.

The chief surgeon recommends that for the dry, hot season a light-weight khaki helmet be provided for the troops, also that the campaign hat would be improved if provided with a ventilation band and the crown of the hat increased an inch in height. The recommendation is approved, and has been previously referred to under the head of the quartermaster's department.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The duty of paying the troops of this department has been performed satisfactorily during the year, though at times the force of paymasters, due to changes in their station and the absence of some with leave, has hardly been adequate to meet the purpose of prompt and early payment of all posts, which is much to be desired.

The chief paymaster recommends that a substantial increase be given to paymaster's clerks, whom, he observes, are "a most deserving but poorly paid class of public servants. Their pay is utterly inadequate, and yet the service required of them is special, demanding the training of an accountant together with a thorough knowledge of all regulations affecting the pay of the army. They are required to move from station to station with paymasters at a great personal expense. The last Congress granted a material increase to paymasters' clerks in both the Navy and Marine Corps, but failed to provide any increase for paymasters' clerks in the Army, despite the fact that this service is more exacting." This recommendation is concurred in, but extended to include a substantial increase in the salaries of all of the high-grade clerks of the War Department.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

No ordnance depot is maintained in this department and the duties of the ordnance officer are entirely supervisory. Requisitions for this class of property are forwarded to the Manila depot, where they are promptly filled.

OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

The office of the chief signal officer of the department was discontinued in the fiscal year 1907, and its records removed to the office of the chief signal officer of the division.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

Sufficient time has not elapsed since the close of the target season 1908 in which to permit of the compilation of reports and it is, therefore, impossible to give any detailed statistics of the showing made in the department at target practice. From reports thus far received, however, an improvement is evinced in this year's practice, as well as in the interest manifested in this work among both officers and men.

PRACTICAL TRAINING OF TROOPS.

In this division the details to be followed in the practical training of troops are laid down in General Orders, No. 16, Headquarters Philippines Division, series 1907. Experience in enforcing the requirements of this order having demonstrated the necessity thereof, it has been modified in several particulars, viz, when post commanders decide such action is necessary they can order more than one close-order drill a week; the compulsory requirement that the pack must be carried at extended-order drill has been modified, as has also the requirement of relieving all men on special duty at the expiration of two months' service. The general results now attained under the order are fairly satisfactory. In several posts of the department, however, conditions will not permit the requirement of the order regarding swimming and night operations to be carried out. In my judgment the order should be further modified and provision made for more close-order drill, which, in addition to its disciplinary effect, is the real foundation for all practical efficiency; efficiency being attained in this training, similar efficiency in the higher drills will follow in the shortest possible time. Not so, however, if this important training is slighted or neglected. I would further recommend that all practice marches be discontinued during the rainy season and that the weekly practice marches required be authorized to be made in light marching order.

Regarding the operations of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, series 1907, upon the workings of which department commanders are required to comment in their annual reports, I adhere to the general opinions expressed in my annual report for the department of the Visayas for 1907. I consider paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the order in question to be excellent, except the requirement in paragraph 4 that the regulation field kit be carried in the authorized way during the weekly practice marches. Much better results would be arrived at, in my judgment, if these marches were made in light marching order. It is further recommended that under paragraph 7 (a) of that order the blanket roll be not carried during the skirmish fire, a recommendation that I believe will meet with general approval throughout the army. Under paragraph 7 (f) it is recommended that the overcoat be omitted in this climate.

The reports of the three commanding officers of infantry regiments serving in this department, and also that of the brigadier-general (General Pershing) commanding the brigade post of Fort William McKinley, show that all of these officers are in accord with doing away with the present infantry pack or reducing it to meet with climatic conditions. General Pershing's report covers the matter and is as follows:

In the Philippines for efficient and willing service the clothing should be as light as possible, having a due regard to the change of the temperature that the men feel at night, and the pack should be properly eliminated. The fol-

lowing, including what the soldier wears, appears to be all that is necessary: One suit of underclothing; two pairs of socks; one pair of shoes; one pair of breeches, khaki; one pair leggins, canvas; one flannel shirt, light weight, khaki colored; one campaign hat, light weight and ventilated; one water-proof shelter half, without pins or pole; one haversack, half the size of the present one, containing meat can, knife, fork, spoon, tin cup, comb, soap, towel, and talcum powder; one canteen; one first-aid packet.

The commanding officers mentioned join in recommending the above-named changes in paragraphs 7 (a) and 7 (f) of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, series 1907.

General Pershing further recommends that the phrase "practice march" should be omitted, on the grounds that it creates a false impression in the minds of both officers and men and implies drudgery, and suggests the phrase "tour of field duty" instead.

PHILIPPINE SCOUTS.

The Philippine scouts continue to demonstrate the fact that they are efficient and excellent soldiers for duty in these islands. An increase in their number will diminish just that much the amount of regular infantry necessary in the archipelago and the added expense of maintaining such.

The result of the recent legislation providing for the promotion of efficient and meritorious first lieutenants to the grade of captain of scouts is bound to add greatly to the efficiency of the companies. A provision for the retirement of scout officers after faithful service should now be made. I renew the recommendations in my last report regarding the care to be given to the selections and appointment of scout officers, and that relating to the pay and equipment of the scouts themselves.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The generous action of Congress in providing an increase of pay is sincerely appreciated by both officers and men. The action will result in promoting greater contentment in the army and will add to its efficiency. Nowhere will this be more in evidence, I believe, than in the grade of noncommissioned officer, which now offers the incentive of a good career and in future will, as a consequence, be more sought for and appreciated.

The following recommendations, which were made in my last annual report and which were based upon reasons therein stated, are renewed: The experience of another year only emphasizes the more the desirability of continuing efforts to secure legislation giving additional officers for the army to replace those captains and lieutenants who are detailed away from the line of the army to the Military Academy, the General Staff, the service schools, and on recruiting and national guard duty; the provision of an army service corps to which should be assigned the duty of doing all the necessary nonmilitary work in the posts and in the field now done by special details of soldiers; and lastly, until absolute prohibition becomes an actual fact throughout the United States, the restoration to the post exchanges of the army the right to furnish beer to soldiers when such refreshment is desired.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS,
Iloilo, Panay, P. I., June 30, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report for the Department of the Visayas for the period ending June 30, 1908:

The department was from the beginning of the period covered by this report to March 3, 1908, commanded by Brig. Gen. A. L. Mills, U. S. Army, with the exception of temporary periods from July 31 to August 10, 1907; October 8 to November 5, 1907; December 3 to 6, 1907; February 10 to 14, 1908, and from February 16 to 24, 1908, when same was commanded by Col. Frederick A. Smith, Eighth Infantry. March 3, 1908, the undersigned assumed command pursuant to the assignment made by paragraph 2, General Orders, No. 16, War Department, January 20, 1908, and General Orders, No. 10, Philippines Division, February 14, 1908, and has been in command since that date except from June 3 to 7, 1908, when Col. John C. Dent, Fourteenth Infantry, was in temporary command.

The limits of the department have remained without change during the year, but due to the restoration of peace and order in the disaffected islands of Samar and Leyte many of the smaller garrisons have been abandoned.

On July 1, 1907, there were 25 garrisons maintained in the department, while at present there are but 16.

The following stations and substations have been abandoned during the year: Balangiga, Basey, Bulao, Catubig, Dawa, Maydolong, and Mutiong, Samar; Albueria, Burauen, Dagami, and La Paz, Leyte, making a total of 11 abandoned. But during this period the stations of Naga and Danao, Cebu, have been reestablished.

This reduction of garrisons has enabled the assembling of white troops in the larger permanent garrisons, where it has been possible to carry out the schemes for garrison and field training to a greater extent than could have been done should it have been necessary to keep them in small detachments scattered over the department for field duty.

On July 1, 1907, the strength of the department consisted of:

Infantry.—First, 12 companies, with 26 officers and 763 enlisted men present; Eighth, 12 companies, with 29 officers and 736 enlisted men present; Twenty-fourth, 12 companies, with 25 officers and 711 enlisted men present.

Cavalry.—Troop A, Third Cavalry, 3 officers and 58 enlisted men present.

Philippine Scouts—Second Battalion.—Twelfth, Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth companies, with 10 officers and 372 enlisted men present.

Fourth Battalion.—Forty-third, Forty-fourth, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth companies, with 10 officers and 395 enlisted men present.

Sixth Battalion.—Seventeenth, Twentieth, third companies, with 11 officers and 393 enlisted men present.

Eighth Battalion.—Thirty-fifth, Thirty-six, first companies, with 6 officers and 381 enlisted men present.

Twenty-sixth Company (unattached), with 2 officers and 99 enlisted men present.

Thirty-sixth Company (unattached), with 2 officers and 99 enlisted men present.

Thirty-seventh Company (unattached), with 2 officers and 99 enlisted men present.

Forty-sixth Company (unattached), with 1 officer and 99 enlisted men present.

Forty-seventh Company (unattached), with 1 officer and 99 enlisted men present.

Making a total of 129 officers and 4,276 enlisted men in the department, not including the staff departments nor the department station.

July 2, 1907, Troop A, Third Cavalry, left the department for its proper station in the Department of Luzon.

On July 23, 1907, the division commander wired that the Governor-General no longer required the service of troops in Samar, and that he (the Governor-General) requested that military operations in that island cease. Immediately all detachments in the field were called in.

July 31 a rearrangement of scout organizations adapted to meet conditions was announced to take effect as soon as transportation could be secured, the arrangement to be as follows:

Second Battalion to be returned to the Department of Luzon.

Headquarters Fourth Battalion and Forty-third and Forty-eighth companies to be stationed at Borongan, and the Thirty-seventh and Forty-ninth companies at Camp Hayt, Samar.

Headquarters Sixth Battalion and the Seventeenth Company at Mutiong, Twentieth Company at Bulao, and the Twenty-second and Twenty-third companies at Dawa, Samar.

Headquarters Eighth Battalion and the Thirty-ninth Company at Tanauan, Leyte; Thirty-fifth Company at Abuyog, Leyte; the Thirty-eighth Company at Balangiga, Samar, and the Forty-first Company at Dagami, Leyte.

The Thirty-sixth and Forty-fourth companies at Tagabiran, Samar; Forty-seventh Company at Albueria, Leyte; the Twenty-sixth Company at Danao, and the Forty-sixth Company at Balam-ban, Cebu.

To carry out these changes it was necessary to move the Forty-ninth Company from Borongan to Camp Hayt, Samar; headquarters Sixth Battalion and the Seventeenth Company from Camp Hayt to Mutiong, Samar; the Twenty-second Company from Camp Hayt, Samar, and the Twenty-third Company from Abuyog, Leyte, to Dawa, Samar; the Thirty-sixth Company from Tanauan, Leyte, and the Forty-fourth Company from Borongan, Samar, to Tagabiran, Samar; the Thirty-eighth Company from Catubig to Balangiga, Samar; headquarters Eighth Battalion and the Thirty-ninth Company from Tagabiran, Samar, to Tanauan, Leyte; the Thirty-fifth Company from La Paz to Abuyog, Leyte; and the Twenty-sixth Company from Balangiga, Samar, to Danao, Cebu.

These changes were mostly effected during October, when on the 2d of that month headquarters Second Battalion and the Twelfth

and Eighteenth companies left Mutiong, Samar, and the Fourteenth and Nineteenth companies left Camp Bumpus, Leyte, for stations in the Department of Luzon.

On February 5, 1908, the Fourteenth Infantry arrived in the department and took station at Camp Bumpus and Camp Downes, Leyte, and Warwick Barracks, Cebu, relieving the Twenty-fourth Infantry, which left the department en route to the United States February 9, 1908.

April 1, 1908, the Fourth Infantry arrived in the department to relieve the Eighth Infantry at Camp Jossman, Guimaras, and the post of Iloilo, Panay, the latter regiment leaving the department April 11, 1908, en route to the United States.

No regiment of regulars being sent to relieve the First Infantry at Camp Connell, Samar, headquarters Sixth Battalion and the Twentieth, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third companies of Philippine Scouts abandoned Bulao and Camp Crawford, Samar, and were sent to Camp Connell to garrison that place after the withdrawal of the First Infantry, which left the department May 6, en route to the United States.

The Forty-sixth Company, Philippine Scouts, at Balamban, Cebu, is now under orders to change station with the Fiftieth Company from Mindanao.

At the present time the strength of the department consists of:

Infantry.—Fourth, 12 companies, with 24 officers and 811 enlisted men present; Fourteenth, 12 companies, with 21 officers and 812 enlisted men present.

Philippine Scouts—Fourth Battalion.—Thirty-seventh, Forty-third, Forty-eighth, and Forty-ninth companies, with 9 officers and 408 enlisted men present.

Sixth Battalion.—Seventeenth, Twentieth, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third companies, with 8 officers and 436 enlisted men present.

Eighth Battalion.—Thirty-fifth, Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, and Forty-first companies, with 9 officers and 407 enlisted men present.

Unattached Companies.—Thirty-sixth, with 2 officers and 109 enlisted men present; Forty-fourth, with 2 officers and 98 enlisted men present; Forty-sixth, with 2 officers and 110 enlisted men present; Forty-seventh, with 1 officer and 93 enlisted men present.

Making a total of 78 officers and 3,284 enlisted men present with the 2 regiments of infantry, 3 battalions, and 4 unattached companies of Philippine Scouts.

During the year the enlistment period of the greater number of the Philippine Scouts has expired, but due to increased and continuous service pay for them as authorized by paragraph 1, General Orders, No. 183, War Department, 1907, approximately 60 per cent of those discharged have reenlisted.

FIELD OPERATIONS.

The field operations in connection with the Pulajan movement practically ceased with the end of the last fiscal year. Otoy, the only leader of consequence, being the only one still at large, and under present conditions there will be probably nothing to fear from him.

The petty quarrels between the hills people and those living along the coast, that sometimes culminate in serious outbreaks when dignified, as at times, by religious motives, should be properly nipped in the bud by practically teaching the hills people that justice may be obtained against their oppressors through the government in a legal manner. It is a general opinion that the hills people are quite as often wronged as are the coast-dwelling and more accessible people.

As a result of this cessation of hostilities many stations have been abandoned and the troops concentrated in fewer stations, properly placed, it is thought, for emergencies, and allowing us with the limited transportation in the department to attend properly to their wants.

PHILIPPINE SCOUTS.

In this connection it is probable that we will be able to keep less, rather than more, white troops in the Philippines in the future, and upon the scouts must devolve the active assistance to the constabulary in the remote districts away from the big centers of commerce.

The efficiency of the scout organizations in this department has been maintained throughout the year, with the possible exception of three companies of the Eighth Battalion, stationed at posts in Leyte, which have suffered somewhat from an epidemic of beriberi; owing to prompt treatment, however, conditions with them are rapidly improving. The many steps taken to improve scout efficiency—notably increase of pay, extension of target practice to full course, change in rations, boards to recommend the composition and nature of the kit to be carried, necessary clothing and equipment to be kept on hand, and the law providing for the promotion of scout lieutenants to captains—will, it is believed, have a very beneficial effect.

It is necessary for the efficiency of these auxiliaries that a proper organization be effected at once. The regular officers to fill the field positions should be selected with care for their efficiency, activity, and experience, that the positions should be given as a reward for good work in the service, but when necessary for an officer to be separated from his command his position, with the rank and pay, should be filled at once. For a considerable time during the past year three battalion commanders of scouts in this department were absent from their commands. Although it happened that during their absence there was no considerable field necessity for their presence, but at the close of an active campaign, with most of the companies about to be disorganized by the expiration of service of the enlisted strength, it is considered that their presence with their commands was very necessary.

To keep these troops up to the most efficient grade it is recommended that they be kept as near ready for the field in all respects as possible, and to this end the scouts should never be housed in permanent posts, as being different from their ordinary methods of living and also more expensive. Their quarters should be of the most temporary character, although the nipa construction familiar to them is quite as permanent as the semipermanent wooden buildings usually constructed by the quartermaster's department in these localities. If injured by a storm the scout knows how to repair his nipa house, but is unable to properly repair the wooden building, built

after our manner. The nipa house has the advantage of being constructed of materials at hand and therefore available and cheaper in the general run, and is better adapted to the country and the scout's necessities.

GARRISON AND FIELD TRAINING.

The instruction under division orders has been carried out during the year.

The department and division athletic meets for the year were held in December, 1907, and January, 1908, respectively. In the latter, contestants from this department took first place in two out of three important events for which entries were possible, as there is no cavalry or field artillery in the department. First place was taken by the athletic team, Twenty-fourth Infantry, and by Company E, Eighth Infantry. With the individual prizes won by members of these teams and special competitors, the result as a whole was very gratifying as showing the interest taken and results obtained as a department.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The work of the quartermaster's department during the year has been highly satisfactory. Some delay in furnishing supplies was experienced during a portion of the year, due, doubtless, to the fact that articles required were not on hand in Manila. These conditions are greatly improved, however, and requisitions are now being promptly honored.

A saving of public funds over last year of about \$128,631.87 has been effected, in good part explained by the cessation of active field operations within the department, by the decrease in strength of American troops (one regiment), and by other reductions wherever possible.

Plans, specifications, and estimates for four new barracks at Camp Bumpus have been prepared, approved, and requisitions forwarded for materials necessary for their construction. When received immediate steps will be taken for completion of the buildings by contract or day labor, as may prove possible. It is also proposed to erect four new sets of barracks at Camp Downes, those in present use not being worth repairs.

Large sums are expended annually by the Government for rentals, and this amount will naturally grow with each year until government ownership entirely excludes the factor. An effort has been and is being made to correct and complete all records of private property occupied within this department, and it is believed that the conditions at the close of the year are much improved over those of last. Efforts to purchase land are met by various difficulties; the deeds furnished and submitted for the approval of the proper authorities in Washington have been held, at least in one instance, for two years without known action. This has its effect upon the native property owner, and it is difficult for him to understand that when the Government agrees, under its terms of lease, etc., to purchase when title shall have been registered, it should take months of anxious waiting, with failure to receive money in a majority of cases at the end of the time. It is thought that in the future no land should be occupied for military purposes within the department that has not been first secured through properly drawn and approved leases from the legal owners,

or through condemnation proceedings, where it is impossible to otherwise secure definite proof thereof. Either means would assist in the securing of the land at the minimum figure.

The sum of \$30,814.22 has been expended in rentals during the period covered by this report, of which \$6,934.57 was part payment of back rentals. In addition there are approximately \$17,072.77 unpaid and withheld on account of failure of owners to secure titles or submit same, and of this amount \$12,000 covers rentals, etc., due at Camp Bumpus, Leyte.

Quantity and quality of forage provided in this department has been excellent, so far as oats are concerned, but it is recommended that no further shipments of grain may be made, owing to the large percentage of loss due to handling, etc.

Several outbreaks of surra and glanders have occurred throughout the department, notably at Iloilo and Camp Jossman, but all have been met promptly and the immediate danger quickly stamped out. Ten animals were found afflicted with glanders and were killed. Three from surra were also killed.

Land transportation is still in an unsatisfactory condition owing to lack of animals. To complete wagon trains, ambulance service, and provide necessary mounts for officers, orderlies, and the medical department, the following additional animals are required: Twenty draft mules, 33 riding horses, and 2 pack mules.

To complete the personnel for trains for 2 regiments of American troops and brigade headquarters, 10 additional teamsters are required.

Losses of clothing due to climatic causes have been reduced to a minimum, taking into consideration the method of shipping and packing. Tin-lined boxes are recommended.

The operation of water transportation has been excellently managed during the past year. It is hoped that the item for repairs can be materially reduced during the next fiscal year.

POSTS.

The reduction of troops in this department by one regiment of infantry necessitates, in addition to the permanent post at Camp Jossman, Guimaras, the establishment of a new regimental post at or near the city of Cebu, Cebu. The present quarters there for one battalion, in the heart of the city, can not be enlarged. There are no quarters for officers, and the land has become necessary for the growth of the city. With a new post Camp Bumpus and Camp Downes, Leyte, could be abandoned and the troops stationed at Cebu, which is easier of supply, and from which they could be expeditiously moved to any part of the department if needed. Should additional troops be sent here, however, the site at Biliran Island should be considered.

Camp Connell, Samar, upon the departure of the First Infantry, was occupied by a battalion of scouts, and such buildings as may not be needed by them will be used, as far as possible, in repairs there and at other posts.

Of scout posts in Eastern Samar, those at Tagabiran and Camp Hayt are nearing completion, while at Borongan nipa construction has been ordered and work is now going forward rapidly.

Two sets of officers' quarters at the post of Iloilo are now in process of building.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

There are at the present time 16 stations, as against 25 at the end of last fiscal year. Supplies have been ample, with an occasional shortage of sales articles and beef for a short time on the east coast of Samar, due, in the latter case, to lack of ice on transport for its keeping. Otherwise the supply has been very satisfactory. The present method of distributing fresh fruits from the United States is greatly appreciated by all.

It is too early to make suggestions as to the new ration, but it is thought that it will prove extremely satisfactory to all concerned.

The majority of the company commanders throughout the department report favorably upon the present method of making savings.

The experiment is now being tried at Abuyog, Leyte, of allowing a scout organization the money value instead of rations. It will be watched with interest, and should afford an accurate estimate of the feasibility of the plan.

The Filipino ration as at present constituted is satisfactory. It is believed that only four-tenths of the fresh meat component should be issued to them except in cases of ailments due to a too large proportion of rice diet. The issue of canned salmon should be discontinued, except when it is impracticable to secure native fish, fresh or dried.

Fresh meat of excellent quality has been supplied regularly and in sufficient quantity, except as above noted.

Some complaints of American flour. When mixed with the Australian product, however, the results have been generally good. Flour in tins has to be supplied to some of the scout stations, owing to the danger of wetting in the surf during delivery.

Losses on fresh vegetables during eleven months of this year, \$1,040.42, as against \$2,088.65 for corresponding period of last year; losses in stores for eleven months amounted to \$4,970.49; losses on property, \$3,389.12, due almost entirely to condemnation of field ranges, ovens, etc., the loss under this heading alone being \$3,091.68.

Losses due to shortage, theft, and in transit have been very light.

The following recommendations of the chief commissary are approved:

Dark coating for chocolate candy for consumption in the Philippine Islands would prove successful.

Canned beets to be added to the list of sales stores.

More specific specifications of such articles of subsistence property, as butcher knives, platform scales, wash bowls and pitchers, etc., would result to the advantage of the department and to the Government. Many of the knives are too light. A heavy, strong-bladed knife of suitable length and of a good quality of steel is needed. Scales should be of standard make, of sound, strong construction, with a large platform. Special crates and instructions for packing would safeguard breakage and loss, screws to be used instead of nails in the crates. Bowls, pitchers, and soap dishes should be of enamel or granite ware. Cosmoline oil, black asphaltum paint, brushes for applying same, and sandpaper to be added to the authorized list for use in care of all metallic articles of subsistence property. A standard field range should be adopted. Considerable confusion now exists in calling for spare parts to repair the numerous makes

of ranges now on hand. Investigations and experiments should be made by the Subsistence Department with concrete or reenforced concrete, for use in construction of bake ovens. Individuals should be permitted to save the money value of the component parts of the ration in the same manner as do organizations. Many articles are issued in packages of a standard weight, and though entitled to the article it can not be issued to the individual, as his allowance can never equal that of the package, such as pepper, spices, lard, milk, butter, sirup, flavoring extracts, and baking powder. Although the ration has been changed in its component parts to give greater variety, an individual drawing his ration for thirty days can not get his allowance of many of the above-named articles until his accumulated allowances will equal or exceed the amount of the container. If every person entitled to a ration can get all that is due him, it is believed that no dissatisfaction will ensue.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

There have been three officers tried during the year, resulting in acquittal in each case. Enlisted men tried by general court-martial, 112; by garrison court-martial, 9; by summary court-martial, 1,340; dishonorable discharge as a result of general court-martial, 49.

The above data as to summary courts are exclusive of the month of June, 1908, the reports for which have not been received.

The notable decrease in number of trials by summary court, as compared with the preceding year, is due to a decrease in strength of command since May 4, and to the carrying out of instructions contained in letter from Headquarters Philippines Division, August 26, 1907, published in Circular 31, Department of the Visayas, August 31, 1907, relative to the disciplinary measures to be taken by organization commanders.

The death sentence in the case of Pvt. William Taylor, Company M, Twenty-fourth Infantry, awarded by general court-martial for the murder of First Lieut. Robert B. Calvert, Twenty-fourth Infantry, and which was published in General Orders, No. 122, series 1907, War Department, was carried into execution at Albuera, Leyte, P. I., July 27, 1907.

Capt. Beverly A. Read, acting judge-advocate, was relieved from duty in this department June 2, 1908. No officer designated as yet to succeed him.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The medical corps has performed its duties in a satisfactory manner. Field Hospital No. 13 was established at Camp Jossman February 18, 1908, in compliance with instructions from Headquarters Philippines Division, February 6, 1908.

Three privates in each company of scouts have been detailed as "Privates sanitary," after examination by a surgeon, in compliance with General Orders, No. 19, Philippines Division, March 2, 1908, and are assigned to the hospital in each scout station in the department. Results have been very satisfactory generally, but the lack of knowledge of English has made their progress slow.

A mild epidemic of measles occurred at Camp Jossman, Guimaras, on the arrival of the Fourth Infantry on April 3, 1908.

Beriberi has occurred at several scout posts. The measures taken to reduce the number of cases and to eradicate the disease have met with fairly good results.

No severe epidemics have occurred except those mentioned. Sporadic cases of typhoid fever have occurred at several posts. The general health of the command has been good.

INSPECTOR OF SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

Owing to a complete change of white troops in the department and the difficulty experienced at remote scout posts to secure ranges on which to follow the full course, changes in "target season" have been made in a number of instances, so that full reports of results are as yet not available. The First Infantry, however, finished its season before leaving the department, with very gratifying results. Great interest is being shown by all, due largely, I believe, to the increase of pay which goes with the grades.

SIGNAL CORPS.

During the past year the telegraph lines in the department have generally been turned over to the bureau of posts, civil government, a line running from Camp Hayt to Borongan, on the east coast of Samar, being the only extensive line still controlled by the military. Due to the new management's inexperience probably, the service has not been first class, and had there been any field operations of importance the service would have been badly handicapped by this fact. As has been heretofore recommended, a cable or wireless connection between Iloilo and some point on Negros would greatly add to the efficiency of the telegraph service in these islands, also giving an additional connection with points south of here and to Mindanao.

A heliograph connection between Camp Jossman and a point on the coast of Negros could be utilized if we were furnished with the necessary instruments.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.

A general service corps, additional officers to replace those detailed for duty in the staff departments, and the reestablishment of the canteen have been recommended heretofore; the good results which it is believed would follow, could the necessary laws be passed for their establishment, having been previously commented upon, it is unnecessary to refer to them at greater length.

In compliance with telegraphic instructions from War Department, transmitted through headquarters Philippines Division, under date of June 30, I have the honor to note that the drill and instruction required by General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, with the exception of paragraph 7, as modified by General Orders, No. 16, Philippines Division, 1907, has given good results so far, and as the system is better understood through experience the results will be commensurate and obtained desirably with less work.

REPORT DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO,
Zamboanga, P. I., June 30, 1908.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report for the Department of Mindanao from July 1, 1907, to June 30, 1908:

The following is the personnel of the present staff:

PRESENT FOR DUTY.

Maj. Harry C. Hale, Adjutant-General's Department, adjutant-general; Capt. Haldimand P. Young, Quartermaster's Department, chief quartermaster; Capt. Morton J. Henry, Subsistence Department, chief commissary; Lieut. Col. Harry O. Perley, Medical Corps, chief surgeon and commanding detachment of enlisted men, Hospital Corps, at these headquarters; Capt. Frederick E. Johnston, Pay Department, chief paymaster; Maj. Augustus P. Blocksom, Inspector-General's Department, on duty at these headquarters; Capt. Allen J. Greer, Judge-Advocate-General's Department, judge-advocate; Capt. William B. Ladue, Corps of Engineers, on special duty at these headquarters; Capt. Charles B. Hagadorn, Twenty-third Infantry, on special duty at these headquarters, intelligence officer; First Lieut. Gerrit Van S. Quackenbush, Twenty-third Infantry, on special duty at these headquarters, inspector of small-arms practice, officer in charge of athletics, commanding headquarters detachment of enlisted men, and acting chief ordnance officer, chief engineer officer, and chief signal officer, and commanding Company L, Signal Corps; Capt. George D. Arrowsmith, Pay Department, paymaster.

ABSENT.

Maj. James B. Erwin, Inspector-General's Department, absent with leave in the United States; First Lieut. Arthur Poillon, Fourteenth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, absent with leave in the United States.

The following are the changes in station of troops during the year:

Organization.	Departure.	From—	Arrival.	At—
	1907.		1907.	
Eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.....	July 2	Cotabato	July 2	Fort Pikit.
Ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.....	July 3	Fort Pikit	July 3	Cotabato.
Forty-second Company, Philippine Scouts	Aug. 5	Cotabato	Aug. 5	Reina Regente.
Eleventh Company, Philippine Scouts.....	do	Reina Regente ..	do	Cotabato.
Company L, Fifteenth Infantry	Sept. 10	Camp Keithley...	Sept. 11	Camp Overton.
Ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.....	Oct. 28	Cotabato	Oct. 30	Camp Vicars.
Forty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts...	Oct. 31	Camp Vicars.....	Nov. 3	Cudarangan.
Fortieth Company, Philippine Scouts...	Nov. 25	Camp Overton...	Nov. 27	Puerto Princessa.
Fifteenth Company, Philippine Scouts...	Nov. 29	Puerto Princessa..	Dec. 1	Camp Overton.

• Temporary station.

Organization.	Departure.	From—	Arrival.	At—
Troop A, Sixth Cavalry ^a	1907. Dec. 25	Malabang	1908. Jan. 2	Manila.
1 platoon, Battery D, Fourth Field Artillery. ^a	Dec. 26	Camp Keithley	do ..	Do.
1 platoon, Battery C, Fourth Field Artillery. ^a	Dec. 27	Jolo	do ..	Do.
Company H and Machine-Gun Platoon, Eighteenth Infantry. ^a	do ..	Camp Keithley	do ..	Do.
Company I, Twenty-fifth Infantry ^a	Dec. 28	Parang	do ..	Do.
Eleventh Company, Philippine Scouts	Dec. 30	Reina Regente ..	1907. Dec. 30	Fort Pitik.
Eighth Company, Philippine Scouts	1908. Jan. 1	Fort Pitik	1908. Jan. 1	Cotabato.
Company I, Second Infantry ^b	Jan. 13	Zamboanga	Jan. 13	Isabela.
Company C, Second Infantry	Jan. 21	Jolo	Jan. 21	Zamboanga.
1 platoon, Battery D, Fourth Field Artillery.	Feb. 5	Manila	Feb. 9	Camp Keithley.
Company H and Machine-Gun Platoon, Eighteenth Infantry	do ..	do ..	do ..	Do.
1 platoon, Battery C, Fourth Field Artillery.	do ..	do ..	Feb. 12	Jolo.
Troop A, Sixth Cavalry	do ..	do ..	Feb. 13	Malabang.
Company I, Twenty-fifth Infantry	do ..	do ..	do ..	Parang.
Company I, Second Infantry	Feb. 10	Isabela	Feb. 10	Zamboanga.
Fifteenth Company, Philippine Scouts ..	Mar. 9	Convict camp	Mar. 9	Camp Momungan.
Companies B and I, Twenty-fifth Infantry. ^b	Mar. 31	Parang	Apr. 1	Basilan.
Companies F and H, Twenty-fifth Infantry. ^b	Apr. 2	Malabang	Apr. 3	Do.
Tenth Company, Philippine Scouts	May 18	Cotabato	May 18	Fort Pitik.
Eleventh Company, Philippine Scouts	May 19	Fort Pitik	May 19	Cotabato.
Eighth Company, Philippine Scouts	May 20	Cotabato	May 20	Reina Regente.
Forty-second Company, Philippine Scouts	do ..	Reina Regente ..	do ..	Cotabato.
Companies F and H, Twenty-fifth Infantry.	May 26	Basilan	May 27	Malabang.
Troops E and G, Sixth Cavalry	June 3	Camp Overton	June 8	Do.
Companies L and M, Twenty-third Infantry.	June 7	Jolo	do ..	Do.
First Squadron, Sixth Cavalry	June 12	Malabang	June 13	Jolo.
Companies I and K, Twenty-third Infantry.	June 13	Jolo	June 15	Camp Overton.
Companies B and I, Twenty-fifth Infantry.	June 29	Basilan	June 30	Parang.

* Temporary duty division military meet, Manila.

* Field service.

Changes in the enlisted personnel during the year,

	Gain.			Loss (discharged).			Re-tired.	Died.	De-serted.	
				Expi-ration of serv-ice.	By order.					
	En-listed.	Reen-listed.	From deser-tion.		Fordia-bility.	Honor-ably.				By sen-tence of general court-martial.
July, 1907	5	5	.....	3	2	4	5	1	1	.....
August, 1907	1	.....	3	19	2	4	8	.....	.....	.....
September, 1907	4	11	3	158	.....	6	6	2	3	.....
October, 1907	26	115	.....	179	5	24	3	3	2	1
November, 1907	28	114	7	191	2	2	11	2	1	.....
December, 1907	40	94	4	183	3	2	10	1	3	1
January, 1908	63	58	8	59	5	6	5	.....	1	.....
February, 1908	78	56	12	42	1	5	15	1	2	2
March, 1908	90	30	10	28	1	14	11	1	1	1
April, 1908	17	18	3	34	2	2	16	.....	3	.....
May, 1908	58	27	2	36	3	2	9	3	5	1
June, 1908	48	68	10	87	.....	6	14	2	3	1
Total	458	602	62	919	26	77	118	16	25	7

Troops arriving in and leaving the department during the fiscal year.

ARRIVALS.

Organization.	From—	Date.
Company C, First Battalion Engineers.....	United States.....	Aug. 10, 1907
Twenty-fifth Infantry.....	do.....	Sept. 17, 1907
Headquarters and Troops A, B, C, E, G, H, I, K, L, and M, Sixth Cavalry.....	do.....	Oct. 11, 1907
Eighteenth Infantry.....	do.....	Nov. 6, 1907
Company L, Signal Corps.....	Department Visayas.....	Nov. 20, 1907
Troops D and F, Sixth Cavalry.....	United States.....	Jan. 14, 1908
Twenty-third Infantry.....	do.....	Mar. 10, 1908

DEPARTURES.

Organization.	For—	Date.
Company A, First Battalion Engineers.....	United States.....	Aug. 10, 1907
Second Battalion, Thirteenth Infantry.....	do.....	Sept. 20, 1907
Headquarters and First and Third Squadrons and Troops E and H, Fourth Cavalry.....	do.....	Oct. 14, 1907
Fifteenth Infantry.....	do.....	Nov. 6, 1907
Company L, Second Infantry.....	Manila.....	Dec. 28, 1907
Headquarters and Companies C, I, K, L, and M, Second Infantry.....	United States.....	Mar. 10, 1908
Companies A, B, D, E, F, G, and H, Second Infantry.....	do.....	Mar. 24, 1908

* Went to division meet, Manila, and remained there on temporary duty until departure of regiment for United States.

On June 30, 1908, the strength of the troops in this department was 249 officers and 4,666 enlisted men, distributed as follows:

Station.	Troops.	Strength.		Remarks.
		Off- cers.	En- listed men.	
Camp Keithley.....	Battery D, Fourth Field Artillery, headquarters and 12 companies Eighteenth Infantry.	55	946	1 contract surgeon, duty at post, and 1 veterinarian, sick in United States.
Camp Overton.....	F and H, Sixth Cavalry, Company C, Engineers, I and K, Twenty-third Infantry, and Fifteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.	23	524	1 veterinarian, duty at post.
Cotabato.....	Headquarters Seventh Battalion, Eleventh and Forty-second Companies, Philippine Scouts.	9	215	
Cudarangan (subpost of Cotabato).	Forty-fifth Company, Philippine Scouts.	2	116	1 contract surgeon, duty at post.
Reina Regente (subpost of Cotabato).	Eighth Company, Philippine Scouts.	3	101	
Fort Pikit (subpost of Cotabato).	Tenth Company, Philippine Scouts.	2	108	Do.
Malabang.....	E and G, Sixth Cavalry, E, F, G, and H, Twenty-fifth Infantry, and L and M, Twenty-third Infantry.	28	536	1 contract surgeon and 1 contract dental surgeon, duty at post.
Camp Vicars (subpost of Malabang).	Ninth Company, Philippine Scouts.	2	102	1 contract surgeon, duty at post.
Margosatubig.....	Fiftieth Company, Philippine Scouts.	1	108	Do.
Post of Jolo.....	A, B, C, D, I, K, L, and M, Sixth Cavalry, Battery C, Fourth Field Artillery, and E, F, G, and H, Twenty-third Infantry.	57	924	1 contract surgeon and 1 veterinarian, duty at post.
Post of Parang.....	Headquarters and A, B, C, D, I, K, L, and M, Twenty-fifth Infantry.	39	581	1 contract surgeon and 1 contract dental surgeon.
Post of Zamboanga.....	Headquarters and A, B, C, and D, Twenty-third Infantry.	26	310	1 contract surgeon and 1 contract dental surgeon, duty at post, and 1 contract dental surgeon, A. W. L., United States.
Puerto Princesa.....	Fortieth Company, Philippine Scouts.	2	95	1 contract surgeon, duty at post.
Total.....		249	4,666	

The following changes have occurred in the staff officers at, and officers attached to, these headquarters during the period covered by this report: Capt. James P. Jervy, Corps of Engineers, on special duty at these headquarters, relieved July 16, 1907; Capt. George C. Saffarrans, adjutant Second Infantry, acting adjutant-general, relieved August 13, 1907; First Lieut. Henry A. Bell, Fifteenth Infantry, acting chief signal officer, relieved August 13, 1907; Capt. Louis H. Bash, Subsistence Department, chief commissary, relieved September 2, 1907; Maj. George McK. Williamson, Quartermaster's Department, chief quartermaster, relieved September 6, 1907; Maj. Sidney S. Jordan, Adjutant-General's Department, adjutant-general, relieved September 21, 1907; Capt. Fred E. Buchan, Ninth Cavalry, acting judge-advocate, relieved September 23, 1907; Capt. Alexander E. Williams, Second Infantry, assistant to the chief quartermaster, relieved December 26, 1907; Maj. James Canby, Pay Department, chief paymaster, relieved February 4, 1908; Capt. John K. Moore, Fifteenth Infantry, acting judge-advocate, relieved April 4, 1908; Capt. Henry S. Hathaway, Signal Corps, chief signal officer, relieved April 29, 1908; Second Lieut. James A. Shannon, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp, inspector of small-arms practice, officer in charge of athletics, acting chief ordnance officer, acting chief engineer officer, and commanding detachment of enlisted men, these headquarters, relieved May 1, 1908. Resignation as aid-de-camp to General Bliss accepted to take effect May 15, 1908.

Attention is invited to the difficulty in securing good administration, due to the frequent changes in the heads of the staff bureaus at these headquarters. During the twenty-four months ending June 30, 1908, the following numbers of officers have served in this capacity in eight staff bureaus, on the proper administration of which depends the military efficiency of the troops serving in the department: Adjutants-general, 5, with an average of less than five months; inspectors-general, 3, with an average of eight months; chief quartermasters, 6, with an average of four months; chief commissaries, 2, with an average of twelve months. The present chief commissary is under orders to be relieved after ten months' service here. Chief surgeons, 2, with an average of twelve months; chief paymasters, 3, with an average of eight months. At the date of writing this paragraph the two paymasters on duty at these headquarters are under orders to be relieved, one after about nine months' service and the other after about fourteen months. Judge-advocates, 3, with an average of eight months; chief signal officers, 5, with an average of less than five months.

Commissioned personnel.

Organization.	Absent from duty with organization.					Present duty with organization.	Aggregate.
	Detached service, Philippine Islands.	Detached service, United States and foreign countries.	With leave.	Sick.	Total.		
Engineer Corps.....	2	0	0	0	2	2	4
Sixth Cavalry.....	6	15	1	1	23	27	50
Fourth Field Artillery.....	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
Eighteenth Infantry.....	8	12	1	0	21	28	49
Twenty-third Infantry.....	7	13	2	0	22	26	48
Twenty-fifth Infantry.....	7	8	1	3	19	31	50
Philippine Scouts.....	3	0	3	0	6	15	21
Total.....	33	48	8	4	93	137	230

The following is a chronological list of the principal acts of lawlessness committed by Moros and resulting expeditions sent out at request of the civil government to apprehend the offenders and to police hostile sections:

EXPEDITIONS.

December 24, 1907.—Mr. Case and Mr. Verment, American lumbermen, one of their Chino servants, and a Chino tienda keeper were murdered in their camp near Lamitan, south side of island of Basilan, by Joloano Moros.

December 26, 1907.—Provisional company of 50 men was ordered (verbal orders of the department commander to the post commander, post of Zamboanga) to take station at Isabel, Basilan.

December 31, 1907.—The civil government requested assistance of the military in capturing murderers of Messrs. Case and Verment in the island of Basilan.

January 1, 1908.—Post commander, post of Jolo, directed to organize a battalion of four selected companies of the Second Infantry and a detachment of the hospital corps, with necessary equipment for field service in Basilan, with a view of capturing the murderers of Messrs. Case and Verment and to disarm hostile natives. Battalion commanded by Capt. C. H. Muir, Second Infantry.

January 2, 1908.—Inspector of Posts Davis and Superintendent of Schools Lynch, in Dougherty wagon from Camp Overton, were attacked by hostile Moros 3 miles north of Pantar. Lieut. William McGregor, Philippine Scouts, was ordered in pursuit with the Fifteenth Company, Philippine Scouts.

January 4, 1908.—Bull wagon (five yokes) loaded with rice, fish, etc., owned by a man named Parkinson, of Pantar, was robbed by a band of 15 Moros between Momungan and Pantar. Twenty men, Fifteenth Company, Philippine Scouts, were stationed at Momungan as a guard. Post commander, Camp Overton, instructed to act as requested by civil authorities.

January 4, 1908.—Post commander, post of Jolo, reports that at the request of the civil authorities he sent an expedition of 100 men, Captain Newbold, Artillery Corps, in command, to Patian Island. This island was a nest of old-time pirates and its inhabitants were known to be protecting a small but desperate band of murderers.

January 13, 1908.—Post commander, post of Zamboanga, directed to send 30 men of Company I, Second Infantry, Lieut. W. G. Ball in command, and two hospital corps men, to take station at Isabela, Basilan. This, and all other operations in Basilan during the year, was due to the organized hostility of the Salip Aguil, the chief Mohammedan priest in that island.

January 25, 1908.—Constabulary quarters at Dansalan, near Marahui, attacked by a strong force of Lake Lanao Moros. Three constabulary wounded.

January 29, 1908.—Several Moros made an attempt to enter the constabulary quarters at Iligan, but were fired upon and driven off by a detachment of the Sixth Cavalry. Object was probably to procure arms from constabulary by force.

January 31, 1908.—Post commander, Camp Keithley, instructed to consult with the civil authorities at that place regarding the establishment of a temporary camp in the upper Romaine Valley.

February 7, 1908.—Mr. S. P. Smith, road foreman at Mataling Falls, killed, his quarters burned, and place looted by Moros. One company of infantry was placed in charge at Mataling Falls. Post commander, Malabang, authorized to furnish military assistance upon written request of district governor.

February 12, 1908.—Post commander, Camp Overton, with 100 dismounted cavalry troops, took the field upon request of the district governor to cooperate with troops from Camp Keithley.

February 15, 1908.—Post commander, Malabang, left station with 3 companies of infantry and 3 troops of cavalry for the purpose of capturing the murderers of Mr. S. P. Smith.

February 22, 1908.—Mr. Allen Gard, district governor, district of Lanao, while in pursuit of murderers of Mr. S. P. Smith, was seriously wounded by a Moro near Camp Vicars.

March 2, 1908.—Rancheria owned and occupied by a man named Vidal, near Iligan, was attacked and burned down. One man and 2 women killed and 1 woman burned. One lantaka used. Troops E and F, Sixth Cavalry, ordered in pursuit. Troop H, Sixth Cavalry, to guard upper Iligan Valley. About 18 Moros implicated, with Ampuanagus as leader.

March 30, 1908.—Governor of Moro Province made formal request for United States troops to assist in disarming the lawless bands of Moros on the island of Basilan.

March 30, 1908.—Post commander, post of Parang, directed to equip two companies of his command for field service on the island of Basilan and embark them on the steamship *Sabah* for transportation to that island. Similar orders for two companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry given to the commanding officer at Malabang. The total strength of the regular force operating in Basilan until the close of the year was about 300 enlisted men and 11 officers.

March 30, 1908.—Machine-gun detachment, Twenty-third Infantry, ordered from post of Zamboanga to island of Basilan in connection with expedition on that island.

March 31, 1908.—Maj. Jno. P. Finley, Twenty-eighth Infantry, governor of the district of Zamboanga, placed in command of forces operating in Basilan.

April 7, 1908.—Troops E and G, Sixth Cavalry, and detachment of hospital corps, with Lieutenant-Colonel Day, Sixth Cavalry, in command, left Camp Overton en route to Lake Lanao country to co-operate with troops from Camp Keithley against bands of hostile Moros.

April 30, 1908.—Post commander, Camp Keithley, reports that an expedition consisting of Troops E and G, Sixth Cavalry, Camp Overton, detachment of hospital corps, detachment of engineers, and a command from Camp Keithley, left that place on April 9, 1908, to reconnoiter the country along the Kamanga and Dumuludu rivers east of Lake Lanao.

Reports that the hostile Moros can not be surprised owing to the fact that when cargadores are wanted at Camp Keithley the information is transmitted to the outlaws, who take this as a forewarning and scatter into the mountains.

May 27, 1908.—Upon the request of the civil authorities at Jolo, a detachment of 35 men, Troop K, Sixth Cavalry, was sent to Barrio Bingsook in Magrove in search of Jikiri and his band of outlaws. Blacksmith Ferguson, Troop K, Sixth Cavalry, was wounded.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The following officers acted as chief quartermaster of the department during the year: Maj. George McK. Williamson, quartermaster, U. S. Army, July 1 to September 9, 1907; Capt. A. E. Williams, Second Infantry, September 10 to October 15, 1907; Capt. H. P. Young, quartermaster, U. S. Army, October 16, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE.

The clothing supply has been generally very satisfactory. It is believed that the issue of shoes, tan and russet, old pattern, should cease and the stock on hand sold. There are shoes being issued that were manufactured as far back as 1900, and this age materially reduces their wearing quality.

BARRACKS AND QUARTERS.

The work of providing proper shelter for troops and supplies has been continued as rapidly as means have permitted but not as rapidly as is to be desired. This is the only department in the Philippine Islands where, after eight years' occupation, important posts for white troops continue as constructions of bamboo and nipa or grass ("nipa shacks"), repugnant to all ideas of comfort and decency. Malabang is still in its entirety such a post; Camp Keithley is in large part such a one, and Camp Overton partially so. For the scouts, the subposts of Momungan, Margosatubig, and Camp Vicars are of bamboo and nipa, as is also the case with the temporary subposts at Bojelebung, Guiong, and Malusu, on the island of Basilan. The subpost at Pantar, for United States engineers in charge of the Overton-Keithley road, is of similar character. The scout post at Puerto Princesa, on

the island of Palawan, is well quartered, with the exception of the officers. Construction is now under contract at the scout stations of Cotabato, Reina Regente, and Fort Pikit, which will ultimately make them of semipermanent character. At Jolo and Parang the new construction has been of the semipermanent character, i. e., native woods or Oregon pine, with galvanized iron roofs. The three posts of Jolo, Zamboanga, and Parang are the only ones which provide suitable shelter for the troops.

As arranged by posts, construction work was carried on as follows:

Post of Zamboanga.—The "Simoes" house was purchased during the year and remodeled into two sets of quarters, one for the chief paymaster and one for the judge-advocate of the department. Four sets of noncommissioned officers' quarters have been built; four more are contemplated.

The following rents and commutation of quarters are now being paid:

Quarters rented for officers (annual)	\$1, 008. 00
Quarters rented for noncommissioned officers (annual)	998. 00
Commutation of quarters paid by pay department (estimated)	3, 000. 00
Total	5, 004. 00

This expense should be stopped as soon as possible by erecting suitable quarters.

Post of Jolo.—The following buildings have been erected: One bake house, 2 sets captains' quarters, 1 bachelors' quarters (6 sets), 1 set commanding officer's quarters, 13 stables, 2 forage storehouses, 1 storehouse for wireless station, and 1 noncommissioned officers' quarters (4 sets).

Two of the cavalry stables (which for the present are unoccupied, as conditions require the retention of one squadron at Overton and Malabang) are now being made into temporary barracks for Battery D, Fourth Field Artillery. If these troops are to remain at this station barracks will have to be provided.

The two sets of captains' quarters are not quite completed, but when they are it is thought it will not be necessary to rent quarters for officers, which will effect a saving of \$40 per month.

Post of Malabang.—The bulidings at this post are constructed of nipa, except the old fort. The probable garrison there for some time to come will undoubtedly be two companies of infantry and two troops of cavalry. The best of the present buildings will, with slight repairs, last through the year. During that time it is recommended that the fort be rebuilt so as to accommodate the post headquarters, post hospital, two companies of infantry, and quartermaster and commissary storerooms. The first of next year, and sooner if funds can be made available, new quarters must be built for all the officers, barracks and stables for the cavalry, and corral and storehouses for the quartermaster's department.

Post of Parang.—New construction during the year: Three sets barracks, 1 set field officers' quarters, 1 set captains' quarters, 1 set lieutenants' quarters (double), 3 sets noncommissioned officers' quarters (double), 2 storehouses, 1 bake house, and 1 set bachelors' quarters.

With the exception of a band barracks, this post will now accommodate a full regiment of infantry with the usual number of officers on detached service.

An allotment is needed for a post headquarters building, a guard-house, and storerooms.

Post of Cotabato.—One storehouse has been erected, and contracts have been made for the construction of two sets of barracks, one set of noncommissioned officers' quarters (double), and a hospital. During the coming year it is recommended that bath houses and closets for the barracks, a bakery, and as many quarters for officers as possible be erected. Approximately \$2,652 per year is now being paid at this post for rentals.

Post of Cudarangan.—A contract has been entered into for making repairs to the blockhouse so as to accommodate an officer and 10 men.

Fort Reina Regente.—The buildings inside the old fort are being entirely rebuilt. When this is completed it is intended to bring here the companies now at Cudarangan and Fort Pikit, occupying the latter stations by detachments.

Fort Pikit.—A new building to accommodate an officer and a detachment of about 50 men is being constructed inside the fort.

Camp Overton.—Most of the buildings at this post are of frame construction with rubberoid roofs. The balance are of nipa, which should be replaced early in the fiscal year 1910. The garrison at this post will, for some years to come, undoubtedly be two companies of infantry and two troops of cavalry, and permanent buildings should be erected.

Camp Keithley.—The work of constructing semipermanent buildings has been continued throughout the year, and the following have been erected: One set field officers' quarters, 4 sets captains' quarters, 6 sets lieutenants' quarters, 1 corral and shops, 1 vegetable storehouse, 1 ambulance shed, 1 shelter for sawmill, and 2 artillery stables. The remainder of the buildings are in bad condition and must be replaced just as rapidly as funds will permit.

Camp Vicars.—The buildings of this station are of temporary construction and have been entirely rebuilt this year, and with slight repairs should last for about two years.

Post of Margosatubig.—The buildings at this station are of nipa construction and have been partially rebuilt this year. Next year new barracks and a storehouse will be required.

As stated above, the buildings being erected at present are what is known as "semipermanent" in character, i. e., frame with G. I. roofs. This class of construction will probably last from six to ten years, according to the care given it. Owing to the limited annual allotment of appropriation for "Barracks and quarters, Philippine Islands," it has been impossible to do enough "preservative" repairing, i. e., repainting and giving the posts and underpinning an annual coat of carbolinum. The result will probably be that the life of the buildings will be nearer the former figure than the latter. Buildings of reenforced concrete can, it is believed, be built for from 50 to 75 per cent more than the present frame and G. I. roofed buildings, and their life would be indefinite. They will be earthquake-proof, which the present constructions are not.

Whatever form of construction for barracks be adopted, I recommend that in all such buildings hereafter constructed special provision be made for the messing of noncommissioned officers. It would be desirable also to provide separate rooms for noncommissioned officers, or at least for those of the grade of sergeant, so

arranged as to permit these noncommissioned officers to exercise all necessary control over the discipline of the barrack rooms. If we succeed, as is now to be hoped, in securing the desirable quality for good noncommissioned officers, their position must be made more dignified. Not enough consideration is given to the fact that the degree of familiarity among all grades of enlisted men, due to present methods of messing and living, is not conducive to good discipline.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE.

Post of Zamboanga.—The question of water and sewerage at this post has been one of the vexatious problems for a number of years. The absence of a water supply has entailed the absence of a proper sewer system, so that dry-earth closets are still in use. Drinking, cooking, and bathing water is distilled and distributed by wagon. Attempts to obtain artesian water have been unsuccessful. It has been proposed to obtain the water from a mountain stream rising in the hills some miles north of Zamboanga, and an analytical investigation is now proceeding for the purpose of determining the qualities of the water from this source. In case this report should prove the mountain stream water to be unhealthful, there still remains the proposition of increasing the distilling plant, piping to the quarters the drinking, cooking, and laundry water, and then putting in a separate salt-water system for baths and closets.

It is proper to state here that no water in the Department of Mindanao is absolutely safe for white troops for drinking purposes except distilled.

Post of Jolo.—A water system is in use, but distilled water is still supplied by wagon for drinking purposes. The sewer from Asturias is not properly constructed and has not been accepted from the contractor. The sewer in the town works satisfactory. Modern plumbing should be installed as soon as possible.

Camp Overton.—There is an ample water supply at this post, but distilled water is still supplied for drinking purposes. Plumbing should not be installed until permanent buildings are erected.

Camp Keithley.—Water is obtained from springs. Plans are being prepared for a complete water and sewer system.

Post of Parang.—A complete water and sewer system has been installed. The latter is not in use, as the plumbing fixtures have not been supplied. It is hoped that they will be furnished early in the next fiscal year.

Post of Malabang.—Water is obtained from springs and the supply is ample. There is no sewer system; dry-earth closets are being used.

Post of Cotabato.—Water is obtained from the river and distilled. There is no sewer system.

Post of Cudarangan.—Distilled water is supplied from Cotabato. No sewer system.

Fort Reina Regente.—Water is collected in a cistern from roofs and is boiled for drinking purposes. No sewer system.

Fort Pikit.—Water is obtained from the river and is boiled for drinking purposes. No sewer system.

Camp Vicars.—Water is obtained from springs. No sewer system.

Post of Margosatubig.—Water is obtained from mountain stream. No sewer system.

LIGHTING.

All lighting in the department is done by oil.

TRANSPORTATION.

Land.—There are still a large number of draft horses and mules practically unserviceable that are being used throughout the department. Though their use is very limited, they are made to serve so far as possible until they can be replaced by incoming animals. Wagon and pack train work, especially on the Overton-Keithley trail, is continuous and exceedingly heavy.

Water.—This consists of the following: Zamboanga, dispatch boat (chartered), *Sabah*; launches, *Jewell*, *West Point*, *Atlanta*. Camp Overton, launch, *Nashville*. Post of Jolo, launch, *Woodruff*. Post of Parang, launch, *Reilly*. Cotabato, launch, *Hall*.

With the exception of the *Atlanta* the launches are in a serviceable condition, but require some repairs which can be done here. The *Atlanta* is an extra launch, without a crew, and is only used when another boat is undergoing repairs. She is not seaworthy, and is only used for harbor work and short trips. It is believed, however, that she is worth repairing, and an estimate of cost of same will be submitted in the near future. The *Hall* is a flat-bottomed stern-wheeler for use on the Rio Grande River. The *Reilly* serves the three posts of Malabang, Parang, and Cotabato for discharging transports.

ICE PLANT.

A long-needed ice and cold-storage plant is about to be installed at the post of Parang.

DRY DOCK.

During the year a dry dock has been in course of construction at Zamboanga, which is nearing completion. This, with machine shops, which it is hoped will be equipped next year, will enable all the launches to be kept in good repair at a minimum cost.

ROADS AND WALKS.

Work on the Overton-Keithley road has been continued during the year under the supervision of the engineers at the subpost of Pantar. The sum of \$30,000 has been expended, and the same amount will be required for the coming year.

The Malabang-Vicars road was badly washed out in February last. It has been repaired at a cost of about \$1,000. For the maintenance of this road about \$500 per month will be necessary for the next fiscal year.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The following officers acted as chief commissary of the department during the year: Capt. Louis H. Bash, commissary, U. S. Army, July 1 to September 1, 1907; Capt. M. J. Henry, commissary, U. S. Army, September 2, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

Troops have been adequately supplied with rations and sales stores during the year.

The losses on supplies for the period July 1, 1907, to May 31, 1908, have been as follows: Subsistence stores, \$3,993.08; subsistence property, \$99.96; total, \$4,093.04. The losses for the last fiscal year were: Subsistence stores, \$4,501.82; subsistence property, \$80.18; total, \$4,582. The losses during the current month will probably bring the total to about the same amount as last year. The largest loss on any one article has been on fresh potatoes, as was the case last year. So far the loss on this article has been \$1,073.11. Last year the loss on this article was \$1,352.43. Every effort has been made during the year to keep down the losses on this article, and the provisions of paragraph 30, G. O. 22, Philippines Division, 1907, have been rigidly enforced throughout the department. Part of the loss was due to irregular arrival of shipments at posts. To keep the loss on this article at a minimum it is absolutely necessary that shipments arrive regularly, so that post commissaries may keep as small a stock on hand as possible without exhausting the supply. The present schedule of the U. S. Army transport *Seward*, which vessel delivers the potatoes at posts, brings her to each post in the department twice each month on fixed dates. If this schedule is maintained it should result in a considerable reduction in the losses on this article. Since the month of February, owing to the interruption of the cable service between Zamboanga and posts in the department, post commissaries have been authorized to call direct on the depot commissary, Manila, for fresh vegetables, furnishing this office copies of all calls.

Every effort has been made to keep the losses on stores at a minimum during the year, and where losses have appeared to be due to the fault of the sellers the attention of surveying officers has been called to the provisions of Circular 3, Office Commissary-General, 1907, with a view to making reclamation. In this connection it is recommended that the causes for which reclamation may be made be set forth specifically, as there appears to be much difference of opinion among surveying officers as to the proper interpretation of the circular referred to. Under the phrase "Climatic conditions" the Government suffers loss on stores in many cases in which it is believed that the sellers should be held responsible. For instance, during the months of March, April, and May there occurred at Camp Keithley a total loss of 1,736 cans of tomatoes. The cause in each case was shown to be "swells" and "cans rusted through," and was attributed by the surveying officers in each case to "climatic conditions." All these stores were found spoiled within a year from date of purchase. The return of reports for further investigation with a view to reclamation under the circular referred to is generally fruitless, for surveying officers adhere to the belief that the fault is not clearly shown to be the seller's. It is recommended that instructions be issued to the effect that, unless other cause of damage is clearly shown, reclamation should be made on the sellers in all cases of swollen cans and cans rusted through when the damage occurs within a year from date of purchase, except in cases where the amount involved is too small to warrant the making of reclamation.

The articles of the ration received in this department during the year have been uniformly good, and the same is true of stores for sale with the exception of effervescent water.

It is recommended that no unlacquered canned goods be purchased for use of troops in these islands and that only thoroughly lacquered

canned goods be furnished. Most of the canned goods received in this department are consumed within a year from date of purchase, and it is believed that if they were thoroughly lacquered so as to withstand this climate for that period without rusting through the losses on canned goods would be materially reduced. Among the stores received without lacquer, or with a very thin coating of lacquer, have been tomatoes, green corn, and green peas.

Some difficulty has been experienced in securing compliance with the requirements of paragraph 4, G. O. 22, Philippines Division, 1907, requiring the reserve stock of bacon, canned meats, hard bread, etc., to be issued within four months from date of receipt at posts. The frequent issue of these articles not only increases the cost of the ration but also causes dissatisfaction among the troops, and it is recommended that the period within which the reserve stock of these articles must be issued be made six months instead. This would, as a rule, insure their consumption within a year from date of purchase, and ordinarily no unusual or excessive losses occur on these articles within that period.

The amendment of paragraph 1246, A. R., by G. O. 128, War Department, 1907, has given satisfaction throughout the department. Considerable savings have been made by the troops on fresh beef, fresh vegetables, and particularly on the dried-fruit component of the ration. The prohibition of the sale of savings outside the commissary is but just to the local dealers and it also works to the advantage of the Government in that less quantities of supplies, with consequent decreased losses, are required to be furnished.

An experiment is now being made with the Forty-fifth Company of Philippine Scouts stationed at Cudarangan, a subpost of Cotabato, whereby all articles of the ration due the company during the months of May, June, July, and August are to be purchased back by the commissary as savings, with a view to ascertaining just how far the scouts can be subsisted by procuring articles in the native market. The privilege of purchasing from the commissary is permitted, with instructions that the privilege be used as little as possible. Reports have been received from the company commander at Cudarangan and the commissary, Cotabato, recommending discontinuance of the experiment on account of the scarcity of supplies that can be procured in the native market in the vicinity of Cudarangan and the necessity of purchasing almost all supplies from the commissary. The post commander, Cotabato, in forwarding these reports states that sufficient food to subsist the company can not be procured at Cudarangan, and recommends discontinuance of the experiment. I concur in this recommendation, as the experiment, if continued for the period mentioned, will but confirm these reports and show that very little of the food necessary to subsist the company can be procured outside the commissary, a fact which will be found to be equally true at all other scouts' stations in this department.

Storehouses in the department are in good condition. During the year new storehouses were constructed at post of Parang and at Cotabato. A cold-storage and ice plant is being constructed at the former post. A cold-storage plant is urgently needed at Camp Keithley. During the year this post has been out of fresh beef for days at a time, due to lack of cold-storage facilities. It is only by the exercise of the utmost precautions that losses on fresh beef are

avoided at the post, as during the long journey by wagon from Camp Overton the meat becomes thawed out and can not be frozen solid again in the ice box at post. It is recommended that a cold-storage plant consistent with the size and importance of the post be constructed as soon as practicable.

Under Circular No. 8, Philippines Division, current series, 40 field ranges were allotted to this department, to be held by the commissary, post of Zamboanga. Owing to the isolation of posts in this department and the fact that troops from some of the posts are in the field at all times, a modification of this circular as regards this department was secured and the ranges distributed among the different posts. Instructions have been issued by the department commander requiring the ranges to be kept cleaned and oiled and ready for use at all times, and to be issued for use of troops in the field only.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Lieut. Col. H. O. Perley, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, has been chief surgeon of this department during the entire year.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The total number of admissions to sick report for the period from June 1, 1907, to May 31, 1908, was 4,059 for the white troops, equal to an admission rate of 1,317.005 per 1,000 of mean strength; 875 for the colored troops, equal to an admission rate of 1,503.436; and 1,145 for the native troops, equal to an admission rate of 1,272.222.

Twenty-two deaths occurred among the troops in this department during the period from June 1, 1907, to May 31, 1908, from the following causes:

Cholera	5	Alcohol poisoning.....	1
Dislocation of spinal column.....	1	Drowning.....	2
Heart disease.....	1	Malignant malarial fever.....	1
Gunshot wounds.....	2	Hepatic abscess.....	1
Alcoholism and cocaine poisoning.....	1	Septicæmia	1
Suicide	1	Tetanus following gunshot wound.....	1
Pneumonia	2	Alcoholism	1
Typhoid fever.....	1		

During the same period the same number of deaths (22) occurred among the civilian population at the various posts (including outside civilians treated in military hospitals).

CHOLERA.

During the year 7 cases of cholera, with 5 deaths, occurred among the troops serving in this department.

Numerous cases occurred among the natives along the east shore of Lake Lanao, in the Taraca district, and along the trail leading from there to Bacolod. Sporadic cases have occurred in the vicinity of Camp Overton, Malabang, Parang, and Margosatubig.

The disease was first reported November 2, 1907, from Iligan, near Camp Overton. Camp Overton immediately established a quarantine against the town, but on November 6 an enlisted man, who had broken quarantine, was taken ill and died of the disease at that post.

Up to date the following cases have been reported: Camp Overton, 4 cases, with 4 deaths, 1 officer and 3 enlisted men; 1 civilian (re-

covery) treated at post. Iligan, 9 cases, with 7 deaths (civilians). Camp Keithley, 3 cases, with 1 death, among enlisted men; 1 civilian treated at post; surrounding country, upward of 120 cases among the Moros, with upward of 116 deaths. Camp Vicars, no cases at post; town and surrounding country, upward of 37 cases, with 31 deaths, principally Moros. Cotabato, no cases at post; town and surrounding country, upward of 68 cases, all among the Moros, with 67 deaths. Malabang, no cases at the post; town and surrounding country, upward of 15 cases, mainly among the Moros, with 13 deaths. Margosatubig, no cases at the post; Dinas, 25 miles from Margosatubig, about 43 cases, all Moros, with 30 deaths. Parang, no cases at the post; town and vicinity, 9 cases, Moros and Filipinos, with 9 deaths. District of Zamboanga, 14 cases at Labangan among Moros, with 12 deaths.

Immediately upon the appearance of the disease in the vicinity of stations occupied by troops quarantine was established, and the usual precautions were taken against the spread of the disease. Circulars of instruction in English, Spanish, and in the Moro language have been distributed throughout the affected districts.

COMPARATIVE HEALTHFULNESS OF POSTS.

As compared with the previous year (1906-1907) the general healthfulness has remained about the same.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.

Medical officers and contract surgeons.—The services of all the medical officers in this department have been very satisfactory. The 10 contract surgeons at present on duty in the department have all been recommended for commission in the Medical Reserve Corps, recently established.

Dental surgeons.—Three dental surgeons should be on duty in this department all the time. If only two are allowed, the work is unsatisfactory and a great deal of time is lost in going from place to place.

When recruits are examined physically at the large recruiting depots in the United States their teeth should be carefully examined at the same time by a dental surgeon, and all defects remedied before leaving the station. Thereby a great deal of work would be saved in this line in these islands, and less dental supplies would be needed. Reasonably good work should last through one enlistment at least. As it is at present, recruits are hurriedly assigned to regiments coming to the Philippines and in not a few cases their teeth are defective.

It is recommended that the supervising dental surgeon, stationed in Manila, make an inspection at least once a year of all dental stations in the department. A severe inspection at stated intervals will tend to remedy conditions which now lead to the unnecessary deterioration of expensive dental instruments. A supervising dental surgeon should be more competent for this work than anyone else.

I recommend that a number of bright, intelligent hospital corps men be selected for instruction at some central dental station, and of these men, when qualified, the requisite number should be permanently detailed as dental assistants. Under the present conditions the dental surgeons are handicapped by having men detailed as assist-

ants who have little interest in the work and no ambition nor desire to advance themselves.

Hospital Corps.—Considerable difficulty is naturally experienced in securing good hospital corps men (who, at the same time, are as good soldiers as every one in every branch of the military service ought to be) by transfer from line regiments. The average good line soldier prefers service in the line. Some better way ought to be found for filling vacancies in so important a part of the service as the Hospital Corps.

It is especially desirable in this department that the hospital corps be kept always at full strength. So far as known at these headquarters there is not a single civilian physician here in an area larger than the island of Luzon. This makes it mandatory, for the protection of troops in time of cholera, for the entire personnel of the medical department to do arduous work in communities outside the military reservations. This work involves frequent inspection, long rides over the trails to Moro settlements, trips by boat to isolated points on the coast where the Moro markets are, instructing the natives in preventive measures, etc.

Privates sanitary.—Under date of March 30, 1908, the division commander authorized the reduction in the number of the regular hospital corps men at scout stations, upon the recommendation of the post surgeons, as privates sanitary become proficient and are able to replace the regular corps men. The reduction is finally to be the limit recommended by the chief surgeon of the division (one non-commissioned officer of the hospital corps at each scout post and, ordinarily, two, or one noncommissioned officer and one private, first class, at each battalion scout post).

Surgeons on duty at scout posts have thus far been unable to dispense with the services of the regular hospital corps men, and it is evident from reports received that the situation in this respect will not change for some time to come.

There are at present 21 privates sanitary undergoing instruction in the department school at Cotabato.

HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIRS.

Post of Zamboanga.—A new set of quarters for female nurses was constructed during the fiscal year 1907-8, and the building formerly occupied by them was remodeled into a ward for officers and a ward for women and children; cost, \$1,465.10.

For the ensuing year the following amount has been estimated for new constructions and repairs, \$1,353.51.

Post of Jolo.—There has been no new construction nor repairs made to the hospital during the fiscal year 1907-8.

For the ensuing fiscal year the following repairs have been estimated for, \$2,208.

Malabang.—An allotment of \$380 was made for repairs to the hospital (bamboo and nipa) during the fiscal year 1907-8.

Lack of material and quarantine against cholera has somewhat delayed the work.

For the ensuing year the following repairs have been estimated for, \$502.02.

Post of Parang.—During the fiscal year 1907-8 an allotment of \$3,500 was made for improvements to the hospital. These improve-

ments are being made under contract for \$1,594, the material to be furnished by the quartermaster's department.

Cotabato.—An allotment of \$2,200 was made during the fiscal year 1907-8, for the construction of a new hospital. This is part of the new 2-company scout post of semipermanent character now being constructed at that place.

For the ensuing fiscal year the following repairs to the old hospital have been estimated for, \$51.30.

Camp Overton.—An allotment of \$368 was made for construction work and repairs to hospital during fiscal year 1907-8.

For the ensuing fiscal year estimates have been submitted as follows, \$730.59.

Camp Keithley.—During the year allotments were made for construction and repairs amounting to \$577.12.

For the ensuing fiscal year the following new constructions and repairs have been estimated for, \$5,367.90.

Camp Vicars.—A new hospital of bamboo with grass roof was constructed during the fiscal year 1907-8, from the appropriation for "Barracks and quarters, Philippine Islands," at a cost of \$250.

Margosatubig.—A new hospital of bamboo and grass was constructed during the fiscal year 1907-8 at a cost of \$314.

For the ensuing fiscal year estimates have been submitted for the construction of a porch on the front and one end of the hospital at an estimated cost of \$85.

Outside demands upon the medical department for professional care of civilians, constabulary, indigent natives, etc., are quite large, as there are practically no civilian practitioners within the geographical limits of this department.

Civilians were admitted to and treated in military hospitals during the period from June 1, 1907, to May 31, 1908, as follows:

Station.	Number of admissions.	Number of days in hospital.
Post of Zamboanga.....	200	3,146
Post of Parang.....	48	520
Post of Jolo.....	85	488
Camp Keithley.....	126	1,828
Camp Overton.....	131	2,148
Camp Vicars.....	7	138
Malabang.....	21	276
Margosatubig.....	7	362
Cotabato.....	86	1,007
Cudarangan.....		
Reina Regente.....		
Fort Pikit.....	2	15
Puerto Princesa.....	2	10
Total.....	776	9,933

A large number of these cases are those of sick and wounded Moros and other natives. The services thus performed by the medical department have been invaluable in bringing about a more friendly feeling toward the government on the part of the uncivilized inhabitants.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

The medical supplies furnished have been found satisfactory in quality and quantity.

The average time required in obtaining supplies from the Manila supply depot (time elapsed between the date of forwarding requisitions and the receipt of the supplies asked for) is reported as follows: Post of Zamboanga, about one month; post of Parang, two months and fourteen days; post of Jolo, six to eight weeks; Camp Keithley, ten weeks; Camp Overton, thirty-five days; Camp Vicars and Malabang, two months and ten days; Margosatubig, two months; Cotabato, fifty-three days; Puerto Princesa, two months.

SIGNAL CORPS.

The following officers acted as chief signal officer of the department during the year: First Lieut. Henry A. Bell, Fifteenth Infantry, from July 1 to August 12, 1907; Capt. Henry S. Hathaway, Signal Corps, from August 13 to November 6, 1907; First Lieut. Vernon W. Boller, Second Infantry, from November 7 to 20, 1907; Capt. Henry S. Hathaway, Signal Corps, from November 21, 1907, to April 30, 1908; First Lieut. G. V. S. Quackenbush, Twenty-third Infantry, from May 1 to June 30, 1908.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPH SYSTEMS.

The wireless stations at Zamboanga and Jolo have maintained satisfactory communication between these two points practically the entire year.

ZAMBOANGA-MALABANG CABLE.

The cable from Zamboanga to Malabang was turned over to the insular government between September 21 and 24, 1907. On January 9, 1908, a break occurred (which has not since been repaired), thus throwing these headquarters out of telegraphic communication not only with division headquarters but with every post in the department except the one at Jolo. This occurred at a time when the Moros of the Lanao district had been aroused from a state of latent to active hostility as the result of their belief that the Americans had introduced cholera into their country. Proper direction of the necessary military movements as well as the administration generally of the affairs of the department was seriously embarrassed. After repeated requests for relief from this condition a field wireless station was established at Malabang and opened on June 14 for the transmission of official military messages and official messages to and from the governor of the Moro Province. This system has never worked satisfactorily.

I recommend as an urgent military necessity that a telegraphic service be established that can be relied upon with reasonable certainty.

RECONSTRUCTION.

Telegraph line between the city of Zamboanga and the wireless telegraph station, Zamboanga, a distance of about 4 miles, was reconstructed during the month of December, 1907.

The military telephone line between Camp Overton and Camp Keithley, which is carried on the poles of the civil government telegraph line, has been converted into a metallic circuit. This line

places Camp Overton, Maria Cristina, Momungan, Pantar, and Camp Keithley in direct telephone communication with each other.

The work of reconstructing and converting the telegraph line from Cotabato to Fort Pikit into a metallic circuit telephone line was commenced the latter part of February, 1908, with a detail of about 11 scout soldiers and a detachment of signal corps men.

The sum of \$1,000 was allotted by the chief signal officer of the division for labor and the purchase of material for this work. This amount has been found to be insufficient and the signal officer, Cotabato, has asked for an additional allotment of \$300 to complete the work. It is expected to have the work completed by the first of September.

In compliance with General Orders, No. 51, Headquarters Philippines Division, dated Manila, P. I., November 7, 1907, headquarters of Company L, Signal Corps, was transferred from Iloilo, Panay, P. I., to Zamboanga, Mindanao, P. I., arriving at the latter station November 20, 1907.

INTERRUPTIONS.

The Overton-Dumaguete cable was interrupted from 4 o'clock p. m., July 27, to 2.25 o'clock p. m., September 3, 1907. Repaired by the cable ship *Liscum*.

The Siassi-Jolo cable was interrupted from 7.30 o'clock a. m., August 25, to 9.40 o'clock a. m., September 15, 1907; and again on September 23, 1907, since which date communication has not been restored. The office at Siassi was discontinued October 16, 1907.

The Malabang-Parang cable was interrupted from 8 o'clock a. m., September 21, to 2.40 o'clock p. m., September 26, 1907.

The Cotabato-Fort Pikit line was interrupted for a total of eighteen days during the year.

Communication over the Malabang-Zamboanga cable (civil government) was interrupted at 10.15 o'clock a. m., January 9, 1908, since which date it has not been restored.

TRANSFER OF LINES, CABLES, ETC.

In compliance with instructions from the chief signal officer, Philippines Division, dated September 2, 1907, all the military telegraph offices, lines, and cables in this department, with the exception of the telegraph line from the town of Jolo to the wireless telegraph station, Asturias, Jolo, and the telegraph line from the post of Zamboanga to the wireless telegraph station, Zamboanga, were transferred to the bureau of posts during September and the early part of October.

The Cotabato-Fort Pikit telegraph line was transferred back again to the signal corps December 9, 1907.

POST TELEPHONE SYSTEMS.

The combined telephone system at department headquarters and the post of Zamboanga and the post telephone system at Jolo, Jolo, were reconstructed and placed in first-class condition during the year.

It is intended to reconstruct the following systems during the coming year: Camp Overton, Camp Keithley, Malabang, and Parang.

ENLISTED PERSONNEL.

There are now 24 enlisted men of the Signal Corps serving in the department, as follows:

Stations.	Master signal electricians.	First-class sergeants.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	First-class privates.
Zamboanga.....	0	1	1	1	1
Zamboanga wireless.....	1	0	1	0	2
Jolo.....	0	1	1	2	1
Cudarangan.....	1	0	0	1	0
Cotabato.....	0	0	0	0	3
Camp Vicars.....	0	0	0	0	1
Camp Overton.....	0	0	0	0	1
Fort Pikit.....	0	0	0	0	1
Malabang.....	0	0	1	1	0
Reina Regente.....	0	0	0	0	1
Total.....	2	2	4	5	11

* Under orders for Parang.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The following officers acted as chief ordnance officer of the department during the year: First Lieut. Arthur Poillon, Fourteenth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from July 1, 1907, to January 28, 1908; Second Lieut. James A. Shannon, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from January 29 to April 30, 1908; First Lieut. G. V. S. Quackenbush, Twenty-third Infantry, from May 1 to June 30, 1908.

The old model 1903 rifle has been exchanged for the new 1903 model, chambered for 1906 ammunition.

The .38-caliber revolvers brought here by new organizations have been exchanged for .45-caliber revolvers.

The gun sling, model 1907, has been received and is satisfactory.

A special report has been made on the subject of the magazine rifle, caliber .30, model 1903, chambered for model 1906 ammunition, as well as on the service revolver best adapted to use in this department. This makes it unnecessary to further refer to the subject here.

ATHLETICS.

The following officers acted as athletic officer of the department during the year: First Lieut. Arthur Poillon, Fourteenth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from July 1 to November 10, 1907; Second Lieut. James A. Shannon, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from November 11, 1907, to April 30, 1908; First Lieut. G. V. S. Quackenbush, Twenty-third Infantry, from May 1 to June 30, 1908.

The annual department athletic meet was held at the post of Zamboanga, December 20-21, 1907, the results of which will be found in General Orders, No. 78, these headquarters, series 1907.

At the second annual military meet, Philippines Division, held at Pasay, near Manila, January 13-18, 1908, Troop A, Sixth Cavalry, and Company L, Second Infantry, representing this department in the contest to determine the best cavalry and infantry organization in the division, were awarded first and second place, respectively. The Twenty-fifth Infantry athletic team was awarded third place. Of the 24 athletic events, 9 first places were won by representatives of

this department, and of the 23 military events, excluding troop and company competition, 8 first places were won.

The provisions of General Orders, No. 16, Philippines Division, series 1907, pertaining to athletics, have been carried out as far as practicable. No swimming drills were held at posts on the Rio Grande, owing to the fact that the stream is infested with crocodiles.

It is recommended that an allotment be made for the purchase of suitable prizes to be competed for at the department athletic meets. At present the only way that funds for this purpose can be obtained is by soliciting subscriptions, in part from the competitors themselves, and by the sale of advertising space in the programme of events. These methods are neither satisfactory nor advisable, as they make the success or failure of a competition largely depend upon voluntary contributors and local merchants and dealers of all classes. As athletic training now approximates target practice in the instruction of the soldier, no reason is apparent why prizes for success in competition should not be provided in the same way in both cases.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The following officers have acted as chief paymaster of the department during the year: Maj. James Canby, paymaster, U. S. Army, from July 1, 1907, to February 3, 1908; Capt. F. E. Johnston, paymaster, U. S. Army, from February 4 to June 30, 1908.

DISBURSEMENTS.

Pay of army-----	\$1, 479, 634. 06	
Mileage -----	10, 638. 84	
		\$1, 490, 272. 90
Soldiers' deposits deposited-----		165, 570. 26
Paymasters' collections deposited-----		38, 676. 75
Surplus appropriations transferred-----		53, 613. 65
Balance June 30, 1908, with Assistant Treasurer, United States-----	\$32, 542. 75	
Balance June 30, 1908, with treasurer, Philippine Islands -----	4, 537. 78	
Cash -----	126, 728. 80	
		163, 808. 83
Total-----		1, 911, 942. 39

During the year payments to troops in the department have been made monthly, excepting to a few companies in the field in Basilan, where by their own request payments were not made. The payments have all been made in person by the paymaster.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

The following officers acted as inspector of small-arms practice of the department during the year: First Lieut. Arthur Poillon, Fourteenth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from July 1 to September 12, 1907; Second Lieut. James A. Shannon, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from September 13, 1907, to April 30, 1908; First Lieut. G. V. S. Quackenbush, Twenty-third Infantry, from May 1 to June 30, 1908.

Results of small-arms firing in 1907 show a great improvement in rifle firing over 1906, while the pistol firing suffers in comparison with the previous year. It is thought that the latter is due to the arm

itself, the .45 caliber old model (1871-1875) revolver, which is an inferior shooting weapon to the Colt's, caliber .38, used the year before.

As there is little doubt that a .45 caliber pistol is the best arm of this character for service in this department, and as the target practice of a command should be had with the weapons issued to it for use in the field, an improvement in the record made in pistol firing can hardly be expected until a better shooting .45 caliber pistol can be provided.

General Orders, No. 13, current series, Philippines Division, publishing the results of rifle and pistol firing of troops in the division for the target season 1907, shows that the highest department figure of merit was made by this department, as follows: Individual figure of merit, 103.51; collective figure of merit, 56.51; general figure of merit, 80.01.

The target season for 1908, announced in paragraph 1, General Orders, No. 43, Philippines Division, series 1907, was from March 15 to June 14, both dates inclusive; but it was found necessary, on account of field operations and changes of station during the season, to obtain its extension in certain cases, as follows:

Post of Jolo, to include July 15.

Post of Zamboanga, to include June 30.

Post of Parang, for Companies B and I, Twenty-fifth Infantry, and men attached to same for field service, to August 15; for other troops at that post, to July 15.

Malabang, for Second Battalion, Twenty-fifth Infantry, and Troop E, Sixth Cavalry, to July 15.

Company C, First Battalion of Engineers, stationed at Pantar, was, on authority from division headquarters, excused from target practice.

Owing to inability to secure complete target ranges it was deemed impracticable to have scout companies fire the full course, and, under authority from division headquarters, they were directed to fire special course A.

The Springfield rifle, caliber .30, model 1903, chambered for 1906 ammunition, is being used in 1908 practice for the first time in this department.

Allotments from appropriation "Shooting galleries and ranges," fiscal year 1908, were made to this department, as follows:

Initial allotment	\$4,500
Additional allotment	600
Total	5,100

which was expended as follows:

Camp Keithley	\$600
Camp Overton	200
Post of Jolo	300
Post of Zamboanga	375
Malabang	425
Post of Parang	3,200
Total	5,100

The sums expended at the above posts, with one exception, were for repairs absolutely necessary to put ranges in condition for prac-

tical use. At the post of Parang all money available, after making necessary repairs on other ranges, was expended on the beginning of a new range, to be of standard design and permanent construction.

By expending all money possible on one range a start is made at putting each range in the department in first-class condition. This is thought to be better than dividing it among all the ranges, as in that way no one range would get enough to make any permanent improvements.

Provided the allotment for target ranges in this department be materially increased for the next fiscal year, the construction of a complete range at some central location in the Cotabato Valley for the use of the scout companies stationed there, one at Margosatubig, and one at Puerto Princesa, is contemplated. This, if done, will enable the organizations stationed at those places to comply with that part of Paragraph II, General Orders, No. 19, current series, Philippines Division, which requires them to pursue the full rifle range practice as prescribed in Small-Arms Firing Regulations. The other scout companies in the department can, if necessary, use adjacent post ranges.

INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT.

The following officers have been acting intelligence officer of the department during the year: First Lieut. Arthur Poillon, Fourteenth Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from July 1, 1907, to January 28, 1908; Second Lieut. James A. Shannon, Seventh Cavalry, aid-de-camp, from January 29 to March 13, 1908; Capt. C. B. Hagadorn, Twenty-third Infantry, from March 14 to June 30, 1908.

New quarters for the intelligence office are nearing completion, and the records are being rearranged and new indexes made: Complete lists of all maps and road and stream reports have been secured from the information division, Manila, and all topographical data with reference to the department will soon be obtained and properly indexed and filed.

When the areas for reconnoissance shall have been assigned from division headquarters to the various posts in the department it is the intention to direct the practice marches of the troops into new territory in order to progressively secure complete information of the respective areas falling under the jurisdiction of each post.

In addition to topographical data, the intelligence officer is securing ethnological information of the various tribes of natives inhabiting these southern islands. This latter information is considered valuable in the relation of the military officers with the various native tribes whose manners, religion, customs, and laws differ so widely from our own. It is the intention to keep these latter records on file in the intelligence office of each post.

In addition to the above, it is the intention to secure all available data with reference to the character, history, and relation with the numerous head men of the department. This information will also be filed with the post intelligence officers and be always available to the new commanding officers of the numerous posts of this department.

PRACTICE MARCHES.

The reconnoissance sketches resulting from practice marches in this department have generally not been up to the desired standard, and greater attention will be paid in future to the instruction of officers and noncommissioned officers in this work. Especial attention will be given to contouring, as much practice is necessary in order that proficiency may be attained in this method of representing the configuration of the ground.

There has been a certain amount of new topographical data obtained during the year on the island of Basilan and in the Romaine and Taraca valleys, and some work has been done on the progressive military map under the direct charge of the military information division. In the more peaceful parts of the department fairly good map work should be expected of an experienced intelligence officer with a command on a practice march. In the hostile portions where a practice march is really an expedition little more can be obtained, as a rule, than a sketch of the trails followed. In such regions the country is close, with dense jungle interspersed with cogon grass higher sometimes than the head of a man on horseback. Under these circumstances intelligence officers can not wander from the small commands to which they are attached, and map work is limited to sketches of the trails.

The sketches of the practice marches have added but little new information, as the present system does not take the troops any great distance from the military posts. The vicinity of all posts for a radius of 20 miles has long since been exhausted in so far as the trails are concerned and such configuration as can be obtained in the immediate vicinity of the trails.

Where practicable a progressive scheme of practice marches will be developed by each post commander with a view of obtaining topographic knowledge of new territory. In order to accomplish this, organizations, during the season of field exercises, at stations where it is practicable to do so, will be taken to distant points by water transportation and required to march back to their posts. In this manner the radius of effective reconnoissance will be greatly extended and the marches made more interesting and instructive.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE'S DEPARTMENT.

The following officers acted as judge-advocate of the department during the year: Capt. J. K. Moore, Fifteenth Infantry, from May 24, 1907, to April 4, 1908; Capt. Allen J. Greer, acting judge-advocate, from April 5 to June 30, 1908.

There were 166 trials by general courts-martial of enlisted men during the year, 2,044 trials by summary courts-martial, and 17 trials by garrison courts-martial.

One captain and one first lieutenant were also tried by general court-martial.

At various times during the year the judge-advocate of the department acted as representative of the United States before the court of land registration in cases at Jolo, Parang, and Zamboanga.

The records show that 26 per cent of the offenses tried during the year by courts-martial is directly due to the use of intoxicants. But

it is well known that the percentage of offenses indirectly due to this cause is far greater than appears of official record. The larger part of cases of absence without leave, missing duties, and insubordination would never have occurred if the soldier knew in advance that he could no more procure intoxicants outside the reservation than he could on it. It is as easy to point out the only effectual remedy as it is to point out the evil. I do not even consider the restoration of the privilege to the soldier of obtaining beer on the military reservation, as I do not believe that there is reasonable ground for expecting it. If this be the case, the only effectual remedy is to follow prohibition on the reservation by prohibition outside of it. The least that will do any good is for the local community to make and enforce more stringent regulations for liquor dealers. It is an inexplicable puzzle that the same people who, with the avowed sole object of the welfare of the soldier in view, refuse to permit him to buy beer on the reservation under the strictest regulation and supervision as to quality, amount, and times, readily consent to his buying unlimited amounts of the vilest intoxicating compounds at all hours provided only that it is done off the reservation.

Attention has been invited to the large number of officers necessarily absent on other duty from their commands. Officers so detached are naturally those of the higher grades and of the most experience. One of the unfortunate results of this condition is that the military courts have necessarily had an undue percentage of officers with slight experience in court-martial duty. As a consequence, the proceedings of courts exhibit an undue number of irregularities, sometimes resulting in a miscarriage of justice. It is true that the young officer must learn this important duty, as all others connected with his profession, by experience. His other duties he can learn by the actual process of making mistakes and correcting them, without doing injustice to anyone. For drill, the battalion commander may be absent and the captain need do no essential wrong; the captain may be absent and the lieutenant do no essential wrong. But in court-martial duty there is directly involved the grave and all-important question of justice to the United States on the one side and of justice to an accused on the other. Moreover, the young officer can not correct errors committed while performing court-martial duty as readily as he can those committed on drill. In the first place, the error having been committed may be conclusive in its effect; the injustice toward one party or the other is done and can not be remedied. In the second place, the young officer does not see, does not appreciate his error in the one case as he does and must in the other. In drill and in other forms of military instruction there is a definite standard; even a recruit may notice a departure from this standard, and if he calls attention to it the error must be admitted. In court-martial duty there is no such exact standard. Judgment, the power to weigh and reason upon evidence, a sense of justice (all of which are susceptible of cultivation) come into play. If a court can be composed always with a majority of old and experienced officers, the as yet not fully developed ability to weigh evidence and reason upon it on the part of young members need not result in injustice. Meanwhile these younger members are gaining the only thing necessary to fully qualify them for this duty—experience.

The lack of sufficient officers causes a larger proportion than should be the case to be taken from duty with their commands for court-martial duty, with a corresponding bad effect upon discipline and general instruction. Where so-called permanent courts sit and the members have, in addition, to perform their other duty, both duties are liable to perfunctory performance.

LAND LITIGATION.

In reference to the litigation over land claims on the military reservations in the department, referred to on page 20 of my last annual report, the status is as follows:

Zamboanga.

Expediente 325 (Maria de Leon, Lantaka Flats).—Deeds approved by the Attorney-General of the United States to purchase are on hand at these headquarters, but the allotment of funds has not been received.

Expediente 417 (Army and Navy Club).—Deeds approved by the Attorney-General of the United States to purchase are on hand at these headquarters, but the allotment of funds has not been received.

Expediente 2930 (Eulalio Arcilas).—Tried on January 9, 1908, and held not on military reservation.

Expediente 1970 (J. J. Gallagher).—Set for trial July 7, 1908, but the land does not lie on the reservation.

Jolo.

Expediente 1431 (Leopoldo Canizares Tiana).—Deeds approved by the Attorney-General of the United States to purchase are on hand at these headquarters, but the funds have not been received.

Expediente 1433 (Leopoldo Canizares Tiana).—Decided in favor of applicant. Deed to purchase this land for \$4,575 was forwarded from these headquarters on June 24, 1908.

Expediente 1434 (Clara Atilano Asig).—Deeds approved by the Attorney-General of the United States to purchase are on hand at these headquarters, but the funds have not been received.

Expediente 1435 (Eduardo Schuck).—Deeds to purchase this land, approved by the Attorney-General of the United States, are on hand at these headquarters, but the funds have not yet been received.

Expediente 1440 (José Torrejon).—Trial completed January 14, 1907, and dismissed July 14, 1907.

Parang.

Expediente 2619 (Eugenio Gepte).—Deeds to purchase for \$500 forwarded for approval of the Attorney-General of the United States.

Expediente 2512-2515 (Du Laga).—Purchased on November 30, 1907.

Expediente 2448 (Acisclo Geminez).—Purchased in November, 1907.

Expediente 2452 (L. C. Tuckerman).—Partially tried before land court January 19, 1907. Continued to July 7, 1908, at request of applicant.

Expediente 2453 (A. P. Hayne).—Partially tried before land court January 19, 1907. Continued to July 7, 1908, at request of applicant.

Expediente 2448 (Acisclo Geminez).—Purchased in November, 1907.

Expediente 2460 (Tomas Roales).—This case was tried at Cotabato on February 7, 1908, and a finding as to facts entered. No final decision has yet been received.

Expediente 3251 (Nicolas Soroy).—Tried at Cotabato, February 7, 1908, and a finding of facts entered. No final decision has yet been received.

General summary.

Cases tried.....	5
Cases decided.....	3
Cases untied.....	2
Decreed in favor of applicant.....	2
Decreed in favor of government.....	1
Not on reservation.....	2

All of the cases referred to in my last annual report have been settled except Expedientes 2452 (L. C. Tuckerman) and 2453 (A. P. Hayne), which will be tried on July 7, 1908; and Expedientes 2460 (Tomas Roales) and 3251 (Nicolas Soroy), wherein a finding of facts was rendered by the court of first instance on February 7, 1908, but the final decision has not yet been received.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Orders governing the military instruction of troops have been complied with.

One result of the adoption of the policy requiring a practical test of both the physical condition and horsemanship of field officers in this department has been a decided increase of interest in the subject of equitation on the part of all dismounted and staff officers.

Taking advantage of the fact of the presence of a number of surplus cavalry horses within the department an assignment of mounts has been made to each of the infantry posts, the allotment being numerically sufficient to include the captains, and instructions have been given that these mounts are furnished for the purpose of permitting infantry and staff officers to keep themselves in proper physical condition, and for their use when necessary in instruction practice. The result is that schools of equitation have been formed and infantry and staff officers are now benefiting thereby.

During the past year there has been more than the usual number of acts of violence committed by more or less organized bands of Moros. Those which occurred in the Lake Lanao region were largely due to the outbreak of cholera, which began at Iligan, on the north coast of Mindanao, about November 1, 1907, and which spread thence along the Moro trails leading into the country east of the lake. From there the disease passed over the mountains into the Buldung country and down to Parang, finally making its appearance in the Cotabato Valley. The military authorities made every effort, and with great success, to keep the disease out of the regular garrisons and the white communities in the vicinity. In order to do this an attempt was made to send military surgeons into the Moro country to explain to them the cause of origin and propagation of the disease and to enforce among them sanitary regulations tending to check its progress. As with rare exceptions the Moros would have nothing to do with the surgeons or their sanitary regulations, it became necessary to enforce stringent measures controlling the movements of Moros over the trails and suspending their most important markets, it being evident that these latter were one of the principal agencies in spreading the disease. These measures were successful in preventing any except an occasional sporadic case from appearing in the white or Filipino settlements in the department; but they of necessity produced a degree of irritation which, combined with the belief among the Moros that the cholera was introduced by the Americans, resulted in numerous acts of violence between Malabang on the south and Camp Overton on the north, which have been previously herein reported.

The presence of cholera, however, does not explain an unusual and growing number of such acts of violence on the islands of Basilan, Jolo, Cagayan de Sulu, and other places in the southern part of the department. This I attribute to another cause, which is mentioned here for the purpose of suggesting what appears to be the only

remedy. When I assumed command of this department there were constantly on duty within its limits two coast-guard cutters belonging to the insular government and from three to five of the small gun-boats originally belonging to the Spanish Government. These boats were constantly on the move, carrying military and civil government officials, visiting many remote places which have not been seen by any white man since the removal of those vessels from these waters.

All these vessels were long since withdrawn. While here their constant movement among the islands preserved the peace. The preservation of the peace resulted in their withdrawal on the ground that their presence was unnecessary. The mere fact of their withdrawal has resulted in a decided tendency to renew the conditions which made their presence necessary. Neither the nature nor the disposition of the Moro has changed in an appreciable degree during the eight or nine years of American occupation. He is as ready to fight now as he ever was. He only wants what he considers a sufficient reason, and that reason to us may appear a very slight one. Peace has been preserved by letting him alone and at the same time letting him see some of the evidences of the Government's power. As far as possible this is done by practice marches from the various garrisons. Even then there are many Moros who have never seen an American soldier. The armed forces can make practice marches over certain parts of the country; but they can not visit any of the countless outlying islands inhabited now, as in times past, by Moro pirates. The troops in this department, concentrated as they are at a few large posts, can not exercise the influence that they should in the preservation of peace except by having available an abundance of water transportation, enabling small commands to be kept constantly on the move, camping for a few days on this or that island, so that no Moro can feel that he is ever beyond the power of the Government. If our sole object is to slaughter Moros when they rise against the Government, we have more troops than are needed to kill them all. But if our purpose is, as it undoubtedly is, to preserve the peace, to prevent war, to make unnecessary the killing of a single Moro, even the present number will prove insufficient without an abundance of water transportation. A thousand men constantly moving will accomplish more than 10,000 men tied to their garrisons. There should be in this department three seaworthy vessels, with nothing else to do than to move troops from place to place as indicated above. I believe that without them conditions will gradually change into a state of war; and should war come, I believe that it will be found that the true cause and the only preventive has been here pointed out.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 177, WAR DEPARTMENT, 1907.

The system of training prescribed in this order has worked well in this department and I recommend no change. Some slight modifications have been necessary, but these are provided for in section 8 of the order. The prescribed transportation for a command on a march involving an absence from garrison over night is an illustration. At the large posts of Parang and Jolo there are no roads nor anything approximating a road outside the reservation. This is also true of all of the scout stations in the department. Marches from such stations, extending beyond the ability of the soldier to pack his own supplies, must be supplied by pack trains, by boat, or by cargadores. In a general way this condition is also true of the garrisons at Camps Over-

ton and Keithley and the post of Malabang. The wagon transportation at those stations is barely sufficient for hauling necessary supplies over the trail.

In reference to the infantry field kit, I do not recommend any change in the list of articles composing it. I say this on the assumption that it has been found necessary to prescribe a list of articles to be carried in the kit of the infantry soldier wherever he may be. On this assumption the list contains the minimum number of necessary articles for field service. Various modifications have been suggested by officers serving in this department, such as "eliminate poncho;" "eliminate poncho and substitute mosquito bar;" "eliminate blanket and poncho from infantry pack and substitute a lighter weight blanket." These and other suggestions are all based on experience in field service in this department. I have no doubt that under quite different conditions of climate and topography—temperature, rainfall, condition of roads and trails or their total absence—still different recommendations would be made. As a general rule the articles prescribed are the minimum that the infantry soldier should be provided with. Of course no method will ever be devised by which the soldier will carry the kit on his person, in this climate at least, with contentment to himself. In whatever way it is carried he finds it intensely disagreeable, not so much from its actual weight as from a general feeling of physical oppression due to its being on his person. He thinks that any other than the present way—even though all the other ways have been tried and discarded—will be easier for him. As far as he has a chance he is constantly experimenting. He wants to carry some articles of the kit in his coat pocket; or he wants to carry the poncho through the belt instead of in the pack. Until inventive genius discovers a way by which the soldier will always have at hand the contents of his kit without his having to carry the kit his discontent will remain.

It is, however, possible to do one thing that would modify discontent, even if it does not eliminate it. A general system of practical training—a kit with its contents and method of carrying—which is prescribed for an army serving under all conditions of climate and topography must be a compromise between extreme conditions. Where practice marches are made under the conditions of field service as they exist in this department I think it would be wise to permit the local commanding officer to vary the contents of the kit and the method of carrying it to meet the conditions as they exist. The soldier should be provided with the regulation kit and be trained in carrying it, because a regiment which to-day is serving in Mindanao might in a few days be serving in a totally different climate. But so long as he is in Mindanao, while always provided with the prescribed kit, he should be permitted to take with him on leaving the garrison under field service conditions just those articles necessary for the service at the time. If for the particular march or field service he needs one blanket or two blankets and no poncho, if he needs a mosquito net and no poncho, I see no reason why the commanding officer should not be permitted to adjust his load to best meet the requirements of his work.

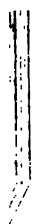
Very respectfully,

TASKER H. BLISS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

REPORT ARMY OF CUBAN PACIFICATION.



REPORT ARMY OF CUBAN PACIFICATION.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF CUBAN PACIFICATION,
Marianao, Habana, Cuba, August 31, 1908.

SIR: The undersigned respectfully submits report of the operations of the Army of Cuban Pacification from August 31, 1907 (the date of the last report), to and including August 31, 1908.

The improved condition of affairs in Cuba outlined in the last annual report, under the able administration of Governor Magoon, has continued. The confidence and cordiality therein reported as existing between the provisional governor and the officials of the provisional government of Cuba and this command have maintained. The helpful and cordial relations between the Rural Guard and the Army of Cuban Pacification have continued and have been characterized by mutual respect and confidence. The Rural Guard has been equal to all requirements made upon it during the past year, and can be relied upon, under its present able administration, to meet fully any emergency.

Acknowledgment is due and is again extended to the provisional governor and to all officials of the provisional government for the aid and encouragement given the Army of Cuban Pacification.

Closely following the last annual report came that of the provisional governor of Cuba, which issued under date of December 1, 1907. Having full and detailed knowledge of every act of the Army of Cuban Pacification from the date of its arrival in Cuba, the comments of the provisional governor can be accepted as truly depicting the work, conduct, and efficiency of said force. The following is an extract from his report:

ARMY OF CUBAN PACIFICATION—UNITED STATES TROOPS.

Contemporaneously with the establishment of the provisional administration, the Army of Cuban Pacification, consisting of approximately 6,000 men, under the command of Brig. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, was distributed throughout the island at the various centers of population. The prompt arrival of these troops at their stations gave confidence and encouragement and assisted in great measure the work of restoring order. While they were not called upon to perform any military operations other than the marches to their stations, their example and advice, when sought by the Cuban people, gave proof of their sincere desire to work for the rehabilitation of the Republic. Fortunately many officers of this army had served in Cuba during the first intervention, and for them it was renewing old friendships and making new friends among those whom they had not met before. The distribution of troops at that time resulted in the establishment of several posts which have since been discontinued, and at present the army, numbering approximately 5,300 men, occupies 27 stations throughout the island.

Immediately after the troops were settled at their stations they were engaged in making an accurate topographical survey of the different provinces, which

has resulted in producing an excellent map of Cuba and in acquainting officers and men with all parts of Cuba and its people. This mingling of the officers and soldiers with the Cubans under such favorable circumstances has had a beneficial effect. They were received everywhere as friends and treated accordingly.

The officers of the Army of Cuban Pacification, especially of the medical department, have assisted materially in the work of sanitation, and their aid has been sought and their recommendations carried out by the civil authorities. Their work has now been supplanted by the establishment of a national board of sanitation, under whose direction the sanitation of the island is being carried on, but its initiation and a great deal of necessary sanitary work was voluntarily performed by officers of the Army of Cuban Pacification.

The conduct of both officers and men of this army has been most commendable. No serious conflict has occurred between the soldiers and Cubans. A few minor affairs resulting from the misconduct of enlisted men have been treated charitably by the Cuban people, and no bad feeling has resulted. This exemplary conduct on the part of the American army among a strange people deserves the highest praise and is due in great measure to the good advice and intense personal interest of its first commander, now Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, whose personal inspection of all military posts and whose careful explanation to officers and men of the requirements under the peculiar circumstances of their service have borne excellent fruit. This good state of discipline has been continuous, both under command of the late Gen. Theodore J. Wint and its present commander, Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Barry.

Reports from rural guard officers and Cuban citizens who have come in contact with the Army of Cuban Pacification are strong in their praise of its discipline and training. Many requests for detachments to be stationed at different parts of the island had to be disapproved to prevent too great a dispersal of troops.

The present high state of efficiency of this army, notwithstanding the large number of recruits recently received, reflects credit upon General Barry and the officers under his command. *The enlisted men of this army are held in high esteem by their Cuban neighbors, and in general it may be said that by their good conduct and example they have maintained the high reputation of the best type of the American soldier.*

My acknowledgment is due to the entire army, and especially to General Barry, whose prompt and active cooperation has facilitated in every way the administration of affairs in this island, and whose activity, zeal, and constant attention to the needs of his command have made it a power whose influence for peace and good order can not be measured in words.

(The italics are mine.)

As previously reported, this command has continued to be what its name implies—an army of pacification—and no occasion has arisen for resort to force. The period of electioneering and of the provincial and municipal elections passed off without a hitch or trouble of any kind, which speaks well for the intelligence of the Cuban people when it is understood that a new franchise law and ballot system were put into effect.

This command consists of the same units heretofore reported and comprises a maximum strength during the period of this report of 375 officers and 5,845 enlisted men, strategically disposed of at 23 stations, including Cuba and the Isle of Pines.

Since the rendition of the last report and following up the policy of concentration therein indicated, which makes for economy and efficiency, troops have been withdrawn from the following stations: From Ciego de Avila to Camaguey, from Lajas to Santo Domingo, from Nuevitas to Manzanillo, from Ranchuelo to Santa Clara, and from Santa Clara to Placetas.

The following are the stations occupied at this date: Baracoa,^a Caibarien, Camaguey, Camp Columbia, Cardenas, Cienfuegos, Constancia, Guanajay, Guines, Holguin, Hormiguero,^a Manzanillo, Matanzas, Nueva Gerona^a (Isle of Pines), Palmira,^a Pinar del Rio,

^a Garrisoned by marines.

Placetas, Sagua la Grande, Sancti Spiritus,^a Santiago, Santo Domingo,^a Soledad, Trinidad.^a

The command has been efficiently and economically administered and in readiness at all times to meet any emergency. The moral effect of the presence of the troops has been beneficial and material. The conduct of officers and men has been unusually exemplary. The chaplains have worked assiduously for the entertainment, amusement, and welfare of the enlisted men.

The following quotations are from the reports of staff officers, the details of the operations of whose departments are regarded as of especial professional value.

GENERAL STAFF CORPS.

Two officers of the General Staff Corps are on duty with this command—Lieut. Col. Millard F. Waltz, chief of staff, and Capt. John W. Furlong, assistant to the chief of staff and in charge of the military information division.

MILITARY INFORMATION DIVISION.

The good work of this division, including the work of the intelligence service throughout the island, has continued. In this work Captain Furlong is ably assisted by Capt. John W. Wright, Seventeenth Infantry. All military information has been properly carded and made available for ready reference. There is practically no end to the military information that can be collected or to the corrections that must be made from time to time to keep it up to date, but it may be said that the collection and carding of military information pertaining to Cuba is practically complete.

The work of the various intelligence officers throughout the island has been efficiently done, and all have cheerfully responded to the demands made upon them.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The following shows the strength of the commissioned and enlisted personnel, gains, losses, etc., June 30, 1908:

Strength of troops of the Army of Cuban Pacification, present and absent, June 30, 1908.

Present:

Commissioned, Army	253
Enlisted, Army	4, 688
Commissioned, Marine Corps	49
Enlisted, Marine Corps	869
	<hr/> 5, 859 <hr/>

Absent:

Commissioned, Army	73
Enlisted, Army	151
Commissioned, Marine Corps	2
Enlisted, Marine Corps	3
	<hr/> 229 <hr/>

Total	6, 088
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^a Garrisoned by marines.

Change in personnel, June 30, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

OFFICERS.

Gain:		
By promotion or appointment	-----	33
By transfer	-----	33
Total	-----	71
Loss:		
Resigned	-----	3
Dismissed	-----	1
Transferred	-----	65
Total	-----	69

ENLISTED MEN.

Gain:		
By enlistment	-----	2,443
By reenlistment	-----	311
By transfer	-----	80
From desertion	-----	73
Total	-----	2,907
Loss:		
Discharged by expiration of service	-----	1,733
Discharged for disability	-----	75
Discharged by general courts-martial	-----	166
Discharged by order	-----	49
By retirement	-----	26
By transfer	-----	87
Died of disease	-----	20
Accident	-----	3
Drowned	-----	4
Suicide	-----	2
Murder or homicide	-----	1
Deserted	-----	124
Total	-----	2,290

Changes in personnel, Marine Corps, June 30, 1907, to June 30, 1908.

OFFICERS.

Gain: By transfer	-----	17
Loss: By transfer	-----	21

ENLISTED MEN.

Gain:		
By reenlistment	-----	2
By transfer	-----	188
From desertion	-----	12
Total	-----	202
Loss:		
Discharged by expiration of service	-----	5
Discharged by general courts-martial	-----	25
Discharged by order	-----	3
By transfer	-----	243
Died of disease	-----	1
Drowned	-----	1
Suicide	-----	1
Deserted	-----	27
Total	-----	306

The garrison school for officers, as prescribed in General Orders, No. 124, War Department, 1905, was maintained from November 1, 1907, to March 31, 1908. During a large part of the school season the troops were in camp engaged in either target practice or practice marches, notwithstanding which the record made was very creditable.

School for noncommissioned officers was conducted as prescribed in General Orders, No. 124, War Department, 1905.

The post school for enlisted men was not held for the reason that for the greater portion of the school period some part of each command was absent participating in practice marches or target practice.

To encourage officers in improving their knowledge of the Spanish language the following instructions were issued:

The commanding general is impressed with the desirability of officers having what is ordinarily termed "a working knowledge" of the Spanish language, and, while realizing that many are taking advantage of opportunities to acquire such knowledge, he is of the opinion that better results would be obtained were some uniform system of prosecuting the study adopted. To this end he hopes that during the season of garrison training, April 1 to September 30, instruction in Spanish will be given to all officers, under the supervision of the commanding officer of each station, by an officer competent to impart the same, on at least three days of the week, one hour each day being devoted to such purpose. At Camp Columbia this instruction will be given in each larger unit, infantry, cavalry, artillery, and marines; the officers of the Corps of Engineers, Signal Corps, and Medical Department may be consolidated into one class. It is within the knowledge of the commanding general that several staff officers at these headquarters are taking a regular course in Spanish at their own expense. It is hoped that all officers attached to these headquarters will take such steps to comply with the spirit of this circular as may be practicable. Many of our officers are already proficient in the Spanish language, and it is believed that one such can be found at each station to take charge of the instruction under the supervision of the commanding officer as above indicated. This question is presented in this form rather as an appeal to officers to add this knowledge of Spanish to their other professional attainments, and with the knowledge that their efforts in this direction will not only inure to their personal pleasure and benefit, but will add also to their general efficiency.

Report will be made to these headquarters by commanding officers of the action taken hereunder, with the names of officers designated as instructors and the days and hours of instruction.

These instructions have been cheerfully complied with and the results have been most gratifying. Realizing that it is difficult for older officers to buckle to regular study and recitation, these instructions took the form of request and appeal rather than order, notwithstanding which all officers have displayed the proper spirit and met the wishes of their commander, with beneficial results to all concerned. This was to be expected from officers who have gained for themselves and their organizations the excellent reputation that has characterized them during their service with the Army of Cuban Pacification.

SMALL-ARMS PRACTICE.

The months of October, November, and December, 1907, constituted the regular target-practice season for 1907, and the months of January, February, and March, 1908, constituted that season for 1908. The general figure of merit of this army for the current year is 72.85; for the season of 1907 it was 53.60, indicating a most commendable improvement, which is emphasized by comparing the number of ex-

pert riflemen, sharpshooters, and marksmen for the two seasons, to wit:

	1907.	1908.
Expert riflemen.....	110	229
Sharpshooters.....	284	662
Marksmen.....	285	369
First class.....	735	912
Second class.....	899	745
Third class.....	1,100	512
Present, not firing.....	30	13

showing an increase of 119 expert riflemen, 374 sharpshooters, and 84 marksmen over the season of 1907, and a decrease of about 600 third-class men.

The Cuban rifle and pistol competitions were held at Camaguey early in May, 1908, and were conducted with marked efficiency and with very satisfactory results. The teams of this command were sent to the United States to compete for places on the army teams. Two enlisted men won places on the army rifle team, winning one gold and one silver medal; 4 officers won gold medals. Three officers won gold medals in the army pistol competition.

FIELD ARTILLERY TARGET PRACTICE.

The light battery and the mountain batteries completed two seasons' artillery practice. That for 1907 was held near Guanajay, and that for 1908 about 6 miles from the city of Pinar del Rio. It was the aim to begin with simple and elementary firing and to have the problems increase in difficulty until all the batteries could be put in at once against different targets, each to represent a part of an advancing attacking force.

CUBAN ARTILLERY.

In each target season a Cuban battery was attached for the march, practice, and instruction. This battery took its regular turn in all camp and other duties, and took part in the maneuvers at Pinar del Rio. The battery was commanded by Capt. Eugenio Silva, an officer of unusual ability, zeal, and enterprise. All showed commendable zeal and made satisfactory progress.

SEASON OF 1907, GUANAJAY.

The practice began November 4 and ended November 19. The targets were columns and lines of infantry, standing, in the open; infantry, kneeling, in the open and in trenches; guns in pits with detachments, also in the open, at extreme ranges; and a limited number of horses and mounted men. The ranges were from 1,300 yards to 3,800 yards. The practice was progressive and very satisfactory. The last problem represented an attacking force of all arms advancing on the position occupied by the artillery. The force was put into action by the major commanding, who assumed fire direction from a central point, leaving the conduct of fire to the battery commanders. In putting in the batteries the targets were so arranged and positions given as to make the ranges unknown; the targets were to a great

extent screened by trenches and bushes. All of the targets were badly mutilated. Allowing for the fact that the real force is not under fire, it is thought, nevertheless, that in many respects problems similar to this exceed in instruction those of the maneuver field, where there are so many cases of short-range firing of all classes, charges and countercharges, where the results are ever in doubt as to fire effect, and where it might be inviting disaster to follow on the real battlefield the lessons gleaned from the mimic one.

SEASON OF 1908, LAKE JUNCOS.

To reach this camp six days' march was required and this afforded splendid instruction. The camp was almost an ideal one, and the surrounding country favorable for artillery practice, which commenced March 22, and ended March 31. The targets were, in general, the same as in the previous year, but the firing points, ranges, and directions were more varied. Indirect fire was frequently used and a range of about 5,000 yards obtained. The country was more easily guarded, full use being made of the field telephone service proper to an artillery battalion. The results were satisfactory.

MACHINE-GUN PLATOON TARGET PRACTICE.

Previous to the issuance of General Orders, No. 102, current series, War Department, there had been no prescribed system of target practice for machine-gun platoons. Each platoon commander conducted practice according to his own ideas and no reports were required by orders from the War Department. In order, however, that it might be known how the ammunition allowed for the practice was expended and with what results, reports were required from the several machine-gun platoon commanders serving with this army for the seasons of 1907 and 1908. These reports show that practice was held by the platoons belonging to the Fifth, Eleventh, Seventeenth, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth Regiments of Infantry and the Eleventh and Fifteenth Regiments of Cavalry, at ranges from 200 to 2,000 yards, the targets used being A, B, C, D, E, F, H, and L, appropriately grouped.

Within the ranges named instruction was given in range finding and in all classes of fire possible with the limited amount of ammunition available. The results obtained, as might be expected, were as varied as the conditions under which such instruction was given, and emphasize the importance of having a system of instruction uniform for all platoons, as is contemplated by the provisional firings regulations for machine-gun platoons, just issued, and which will be carried into effect as soon as arrangements now under way shall have been completed.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

The troops were inspected by the undersigned and the inspector-general, and a satisfactory condition of instruction, discipline, and preparedness for field service was manifest at all stations. All reports of such inspections by the inspector-general were forwarded to the War Department.

This inspector-general in his annual report remarks:

The troops of the command inspected have shown a satisfactory proficiency in instruction, are in excellent condition, and are comfortably quartered.

The personal equipment of the men, arms, ammunition, and transportation are in condition for immediate service in the field.

During the year improvements in all departments have been made. Permanent quarters have been gradually completed or rented, so that virtually the whole command is under permanent cover. Iron bunks have been supplied and permanent tableware has taken the place of the tin meat can, with knife, fork, and spoon.

All the animals, horses and mules, show a marked improvement in physical condition, due, it is believed, in a great part to being provided with shelter from sun and rain, and the order requiring careful feeding three times a day when practicable, when being used, and at hours when feed is most needed to aid digestion and to preserve strength.

Improvement in the condition of harness and leather equipment and wheeled transportation has been gradual.

The target practice throughout this army has been systematically carried on. The percentages obtained show careful attention of the individual and a marked proficiency of the new rifle as supplied this year.

The practice marches and maneuvers held throughout the army have been systematic, progressive, and productive of excellent results in the way of field training.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

No regular officer of the Judge-Advocate-General's Department has been on duty with this command since December 17, 1906, though there are three officers of that department in Cuba on duty with the provisional government. The command has gotten along as well as possible by the detail of suitable line officers, whose work has been satisfactory, though their detachment has caused changes in the office and has not produced the best results.

It is submitted that this army is of such strength and its work of sufficient importance to entitle it to a staff composed of officers of the regular staff establishments and not have to detail officers of the line temporarily for this duty.

The discipline of the command continues to be excellent, especially so under the unusual conditions of service here. The system in vogue at the rendition of the last annual report of bringing all general court cases to Camp Columbia for trial has been discontinued, and courts are now convened throughout the island whenever necessary and wherever the proper number of officers are available.

The judge-advocate reports as follows:

The average enlisted strength of the Regular Army in Cuba during the period covered was 4,347; of the Marine Corps, 917; average total, 5,264. Three hundred and seventeen men (7.29 per cent) of the Regular Army and 61 men (6.65 per cent) of the Marine Corps were tried by general courts-martial. Total, 378 (7.18 per cent) of the Army of Cuban Pacification.

Of the men so tried 187 (3.55 per cent) were dishonorably discharged, distributed as follows:

The army.....	161 (3.7 per cent)
Marine Corps.....	26 (2.83 per cent)

Men dishonorably discharged as the result of previous convictions:

The army.....	35
Marine Corps.....	6

While it is not obligatory upon a company commander to submit charges for trial by general court-martial for minor offenses when a man has accumulated the requisite number of convictions, yet the law enables him to do so in the case

of an incorrigible man and thus rid the service of worthless characters. No changes in the law on this subject are recommended, especially as the service at present offers more and better inducements than ever to good men.

INFERIOR COURTS-MARTIAL.

There were 4,593 trials by inferior courts and 2,516 men so tried. While a number of these trials were for trivial offenses, there is nothing to show that men were brought to trial for every dereliction, and it is assumed that company commanders exhausted the punishing power given them by paragraph 960, A. R., before preferring charges.

ADMINISTRATION OF DISCIPLINE.

General courts-martial are at present convened at ten of the principal stations. This enables cases to be disposed of promptly and at a minimum expenditure for travel.

GENERAL CONDUCT OF TROOPS.

The general conduct of the troops constituting this army has been excellent. There have been very few charges preferred for offenses against the Cubans.

Two enlisted men of the army were tried by a provisional court for the murder of two Cubans but the result of this trial has not yet been published.

The result of this trial was acquittal.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

The operations of the quartermaster's department show a material reduction in expenditures for the current year over that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, of \$20,000 per month. This reduction has been mainly in transportation, incidental expenses, and regular supplies, and while in no sense reducing the efficiency of the service or of the troops, has resulted from natural causes and from reducing the number of stations. Expenditures on account of construction and repairs to barracks and quarters or rentals incident thereto, water supply, sewer system, sanitation, and target ranges have been made as heretofore from Cuban funds. Wherever practicable the wheel and pack transportation has been used in transporting supplies.

Since the last annual report the Marianao clothing depot has been discontinued and the clothing and equipage transferred to the Habana depot. This concentration has produced a saving in labor and expense.

All quartermaster's supplies are furnished from the United States excepting fuel and some green forage, and have been of excellent quality. The comfort of the enlisted men has been materially added to during the past year by supplying army ranges, laundry outfits, kitchen utensils, tableware, and the usual barrack bedsteads and bedding.

The supply of clothing on hand is suitable for tropical service. In addition there is a small amount of heavy underwear for issue to prisoners and casuals returning to the United States during the winter season. All the clothing furnished has been satisfactory and the efforts of the quartermaster's department and its progressive spirit in improving articles of clothing and equipment are well established and very thorough, and very little can be suggested or is to be desired in this connection.

The return to the gauntlet for mounted service is inadvisable. After many years' experience with this article its use was discontinued

and a glove substituted, which latter gave very general satisfaction. Every effort has been made to make the field uniform inconspicuous, but a large light-colored gauntlet is not in this direction. In the tropics the gauntlet is a sweat box around the wrist, makes it inconvenient to consult a wrist watch, and can not be conveniently used with an overcoat or raincoat, and catches the rain. The ordinary glove of the color of the field uniform is preferable.

A light-weight blanket and light shoes seem to be desirable in the tropics, where it is not necessary to load the soldier with the same heavy blanket and heavy shoe needed in Alaska.

Twenty of the Reber process shelter tents were sent here for trial, and have been exposed to the wind and rain for periods varying from three to six months, and though slightly heavier they are believed to be an improvement over the old shelter tent.

The blue top ventilated tent was also sent here for experiment, and would seem to be more comfortable than the present conical wall tent and the poles thereof more durable.

Five pyramidal tents were examined and tested in comparison with the conical wall tent. They have much greater accommodating space, and if their cost, bulk, and weight are not excessive as compared to the conical wall tent they are preferable to the latter, especially in permanent camps.

A very marked improvement in the animals, horses and mules, has been observed. The veterinary service has been very efficient. One veterinarian is kept constantly on the go from station to station supervising the care and treatment of public animals and disseminating knowledge concerning the same. Their work is under the supervision of Veterinarian Gerald E. Griffin, Third Field Artillery, and the improved condition of the animals of this command speaks well for him and his assistants.

Semimonthly army transport service between Habana and Newport News has been efficient and satisfactory. The schedule meets all requirements. The chief quartermaster has submitted an unusually detailed and thoroughly comprehensive report of the operations of his department, a copy of which has been furnished the Quartermaster-General, in whose office it will no doubt receive full attention.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

The troops have been supplied as heretofore with ample rations and sales stores. All posts except Morro Barracks and Camaguey are supplied with frozen beef of excellent quality; 788,551 pounds of frozen beef was shipped to outlying stations, 545,611 pounds disposed of at Camp Columbia, a total of 1,334,162 pounds. The loss on this total amount was 1,138 pounds, or less than one-tenth of 1 per cent of the amount handled. This speaks sufficiently for the quality of the beef and the care exercised in its handling. The beef for the past year cost 9.07 cents per pound.

Fresh vegetables have been shipped twice a month from New York or Newport News, and with occasional purchases in Habana to supply unforeseen increases have met all the demands. The native potato seems to be unstable, with a large proportion of small ones.

Ice is purchased at local plants and varies from 25 cents to \$1.50 per hundred. Bread is baked in the Blodgett field oven with excellent results.

The knockdown field oven has also given satisfaction, although some complaint is made as to its small capacity. The increase in the ration effective May 1 last has given universal satisfaction. With intelligent supervision and a good cook all reasonable and proper demands are satisfied. The cost of the ration for the month of May was 23.857 cents. As savings are now allowed on all articles of the ration a much greater variety is obtained than in the past.

On account of their very perishable nature the advisability of allowing savings on fresh vegetables is doubted. The ration is none too large and should be consumed.

As to fresh beef, the minimum amount to be drawn should be fixed, more especially at remote points where cold storage is limited. The contractor arranges for his cold storage on a basis of the maximum estimated amounts required. Calls in excess of these estimates are made for a few months and then suddenly reduced, which leaves the beef ordered the month before en route, to be taken care of as best it can. After the contractor adjusts himself to the new condition the demands are suddenly increased, with corresponding shortage. This seems unfair, not only to the contractor, but to the officer charged with supplying the troops. The supply of beef and vegetables must be arranged for months in advance by the contractor, and if he takes the risk of having more or less left on hand a corresponding increase will be made in the price.

The losses on all subsistence stores during the past year were practically inappreciable, and have been reduced to a minimum.

In addition to the supplying of troops of the army with rations and subsistence supplies, the marines serving with this army are likewise so supplied by the army subsistence department.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The administration of the medical department has been most efficient.

In the last annual report an outbreak of yellow fever at Cienfuegos was referred to. By the efficient efforts of the sanitary department of the civil government and the medical officers of this army the original outbreak, which started about August 5, 1907, with 9 cases (principally hospital corps men and patients in the hospital), was effectually stamped out, and on August 31 of that year there was not a case of yellow fever in this island.

All hospital corps men and patients were removed and segregated in the camp at Cienfuegos from the infected hospital, all infected or possibly infected patients being properly protected by mosquito netting, and although no case had appeared among the men in the camp the barracks and other buildings therein were sealed and fumigated and the command quarantined against the town. On September 9 Private Foster, Troop L, Fifteenth Cavalry, was taken under observation and his case confirmed on September 12. His commanding officer reported that investigation of the fullest nature failed to show that he had broken the quarantine, notwithstanding which he believed that he had. Private Foster died on September 17, and that no other cases appeared in the camp was proof that the infection was not there and that Private Foster must have become infected elsewhere. Including the case of a civilian teamster from Soledad, there were 13 cases in all at Cienfuegos, 4 of whom died.

Another outbreak of yellow fever appeared among the troops at Santa Clara. On September 17 and 18, respectively, 2 cases were reported—both nonimmune Spaniards—occurring in the town of Santa Clara, in a fonda which was directly opposite the American barracks, with a narrow street intervening.

Another case was reported on October 11—also a nonimmune Spaniard—occurring in a fonda diagonally across the street from the barracks. On October 11 a civilian blacksmith on duty and who messed with the pack train at Santa Clara was admitted to the post hospital with temperature, and he was at once isolated and screened. On the third day the general symptoms of yellow fever were well marked. Upon receipt of this information the command at Santa Clara was put into camp 1 mile beyond the town, and all buildings occupied by the troops fumigated, as well as other buildings in the immediate vicinity.

On November 15 the surgeon reported two suspicious cases among the guard left in town over the property. These two cases were confirmed by experts of the sanitary department of the provisional government. Another man of the guard was suspected at the same time, but his case was not confirmed by the expert, although the case was treated, as far as preventive precautions were concerned, as if it were yellow fever.

On December 6 and 31, 2 additional cases, nonimmune Spaniards, were reported, and on February 11 a nonimmune native. On February 17 the surgeon at Santa Clara reported that the case of Private Bentley, Troop K, Fifteenth Cavalry, who was admitted to the post hospital February 14, was confirmed as yellow fever.

The source of infection in Bentley's case was traced to a house in the town of Santa Clara.

The hospital and barracks were again fumigated, and the command moved into camp on February 15.

On February 18 another case, that of Private Clifford, Troop M, Fifteenth Cavalry, was reported.

On February 19 the medical inspector (now chief surgeon) was sent to Santa Clara to look into and report upon existing conditions at that station, and to make such recommendations as were necessary to protect the command, and on the 20th he was instructed as follows:

Make careful and thorough investigation, both at Santa Clara and present camp site. I have decided not to permit troops to again be stationed at Santa Clara. See therefore what is necessary to make present camp suitable in all respects. As infection is still in town, all officers, soldiers, and civilian employees should be moved into camp, excepting, possibly, for the present, the hospital and patients.

Five cases among the troops resulted from this outbreak. At Santa Clara there were 9 cases in all, including the civilian blacksmith, with 1 death.

As the result of these repeated outbreaks in Santa Clara the troops were removed to Placetas, where they now are, and where yellow fever is said to have never prevailed.

On November 10 and 12, 1907, 2 cases were reported among the troops at Ciego de Avila, 1 of whom died. The troops were withdrawn from this station to Camaguey.

Since the last outbreak at Santa Clara above referred to no yellow fever has appeared in this command.

There were 6 deaths from typhoid fever this year, as against 11 last year.

The chief surgeon has submitted a detailed and comprehensive report of the sanitary and medical administration during the past year, copy of which was furnished the Surgeon-General, United States Army.

Extensive quotations therefrom follow, from which it appears that the percentage per thousand of constantly noneffectives for this army was 37.67 this year, as against 49.79 in the United States and 63.66 in the Philippines for white troops last year. Last year the percentage per thousand constantly noneffectives of this army was 36.25.

The Surgeon-General of the Army, in his annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, remarks:

Alaska, as usual, had the lowest admission and constantly noneffective rates and, next to Cuba, the lowest discharge and total loss rates.

The discharge, death, total loss, and, next to Alaska, the constant noneffective rates were lower in Cuba than any other country where American troops were serving.

The United States proper had the highest discharge rates, but, next to Cuba, the lowest death rate, and the lowest death rate for disease which has been heretofore recorded.

The Philippine Islands had, as usual, the highest admission, death, and constantly noneffective rates, and all the rates were a little higher than for 1905.

The fact that since this command came to Cuba it has had a lower noneffective rate than troops stationed in the United States, where they are quartered in modern barracks, on good sanitary sites, with all the comforts and conveniences of modern sanitation, speaks sufficiently for the efficiency and thoroughness of the sanitary department of the provisional government, the intelligence and devotion of our medical officers and hospital corps men, and the intelligent and faithful compliance by the officers and enlisted men of this army in carrying out instructions and in safeguarding themselves against disease in this tropical climate.

The sanitary conditions have been investigated by experts and others from our own country and other parts of the world and their thoroughness and excellence have been marveled at. The commissioner of health of the city of New York, Thomas Darlington, and Lieut. Col. W. G. McPherson, Royal Army Medical Corps, Great Britain, made careful investigations of our stations, camps, and sanitary conditions generally and pronounced them above criticism. From such experts this is all-sufficient.

QUARANTINE.

The quarantine against Cuba existing at the date of the last annual report was suspended December 16, 1907, and was again put in operation April 1, 1908, although at that date there was not a case of yellow fever in the island, and the medical officers of the army and navy serving with this command reported without exception that no necessity existed for a quarantine, and that it was unnecessary, unjust, and entailed personal and pecuniary hardship.

On August 5 the quarantine was removed from the three western provinces of the island and still covers the three eastern provinces, which include more than two-thirds of its entire area. About this latter date medical officers of this command reported that, with the

exception of the Daiquiri-Santiago zone, yellow fever had not existed in their several districts since April 1 last, and that in their opinion the maintenance of the quarantine outside of said zone was unnecessary.

In forwarding these reports the chief surgeon remarked:

In my opinion the maintenance of such quarantine against the island at large under existing conditions in Cuba is unscientific and vexatious, and not in accordance with modern quarantine practice and regulations as generally enforced.

With the exception of the Santiago-Daiquiri zone, at the extreme eastern end of the island, yellow fever has not existed in Cuba since February 20, 1908. In that zone 3 cases occurred in Santiago, terminating June 4, and 20 cases at Daiquiri, terminating July 31. Although the infection has been limited to this small area, nevertheless the United States maintained the quarantine against Cuba and the Isle of Pines since about April 1, and since August 5 against the three eastern provinces—Oriente, Camaguey, and Santa Clara.

This quarantine and its present maintenance over the greater portion of the island seems to be in violation of a sanitary convention existing between the United States and the Republic of Cuba. It has caused much inconvenience by impeding the movements of persons connected with this army and has imposed upon them and the transport service vexatious formalities, has discredited the excellent sanitary conditions maintained throughout Cuba, and has inspired uneasiness among the relatives and friends of the American troops and civil officials.

The following is quoted from the report of the chief surgeon:

The mean strength of the Army of Cuban Pacification for the year, as shown by the reports of sick and wounded, was: Officers, 285; enlisted men, 4,691; total, 4,976.

The total admissions to sick report during the year for diseases in line of duty, 3,441; not in line of duty, 1,175; for injuries in line of duty, 1,321; not in line of duty, 130; aggregate for all causes, 5,977.

As a result of the diseases, wounds, and injuries as indicated above, the Government sustained a loss of 68,611 days' service, an average of 13.78 days for each officer and soldier, or 37.67 per thousand of mean strength constantly noneffective.

Thirty-three deaths occurred during the year from the following causes:

Yellow fever.....	6
Typhoid fever.....	6
Gunshot wound, accidental.....	4
Gunshot wound, suicidal.....	3
Drowning, accidental.....	3
Cerebro-spinal meningitis.....	2
Cerebral hemorrhages from accidental wounds.....	2
Appendicitis.....	1
Cardiac paralysis.....	1
Pyæmia, following infected injury to foot.....	1
Pneumonia.....	1
Hemorrhages abdominal cavity (kicked by mule).....	1
Renal cirrhosis, syphilitic.....	1
Peritonitis, general.....	1
Total.....	33

Of the above deaths 27 were enlisted men and 6 civilians. Two deaths of infants reported, but not on sick report nor shown in above list.

The ratio of deaths to the command was 5.42 per thousand of mean strength.

Under existing orders no discharges on surgeon's certificates of disability are made in Cuba, the cases being sent to Fort Monroe, Va., for discharge. Sixty-three men were sent to that point for discharge during the year.

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Yellow fever.....	25
Typhoid fever.....	47
Malarial fever.....	151
Dengue.....	173
Tuberculosis.....	20
Diphtheria.....	6
Measles.....	55
Mumps.....	15
Dysentery.....	38
Cerebro-spinal meningitis.....	4
Gonorrhea.....	474
Syphilis.....	221

NONINFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diarrhea.....	232
Other causes.....	3, 155
Injuries.....	1, 361
Total for all causes.....	5, 977

* * * * *

The admission rate per thousand for the different diseases is as follows:

Diseases.	Number of admissions.	Rate per 1,000.
Yellow fever.....	25	4.18
Typhoid fever.....	47	7.88
Malarial fever.....	151	25.26
Dengue.....	173	28.94
Tuberculosis.....	20	3.34
Diphtheria.....	6	1
Measles.....	55	9.20
Mumps.....	15	2.51
Dysentery.....	38	6.37
Diarrhea.....	232	38.80
Gonorrhea.....	474	79.30
Syphilis.....	221	36.98
Cerebro-spinal meningitis.....	4	.67
Injuries.....	1, 361	227.70
Other causes.....	3, 155	527.87
Total.....	5, 977	1, 000

Among the acute infectious diseases the largest admission rate was for dengue, an epidemic of which swept very generally over the island during the year.

It is of interest to note that although this disease prevailed at a time when yellow fever was existent, and was coincident with that disease at Cienfuegos, that little confusion or doubt in diagnosis arose therefrom, although in similar coexistent epidemics of these diseases in the United States much doubt and controversy has arisen, as the symptoms in the milder cases of yellow fever bear a close resemblance to those of dengue.

The greatest noneffective rate has been from venereal diseases, there having been 474 admissions from gonorrhea and 221 from syphilis, an admission rate of 116.28 per thousand. This rate, however, is exceeded in the United States and the Philippines, where the admissions for 1907 were 190.44 and 310.34, respectively.

There were 151 admissions for malarial fever during the year, an admission rate of 25.26 per thousand, which is quite remarkable, as the admission rate for

this disease in the United States is 107.67 per thousand and in the Philippines 304.20 per thousand.

There were but 38 admissions for dysentery during the year, and these were almost wholly recurrent cases contracted in the Philippines. As this country is practically free from this serious disease great care should be taken to prevent its introduction by cases such as those mentioned above.

There is but little to be said of the other diseases occurring in this army, as they differ in no essential particular from like diseases at home; they were few in number, and those of an infectious nature were for the most part introduced from abroad.

The percentage per thousand constantly noneffective for the entire army was 37.67, as against 49.79 in the United States and 63.06 in the Philippines for white troops.

* * * * *

The work of the medical department attached to this army has been faithful and efficient, and this was notably the case in the outbreak of yellow fever at Cienfuegos, where the men of the hospital corps, although 9 of their comrades had been suddenly stricken with the disease, went about their work calmly and with redoubled efforts, and proved themselves worthy men and true soldiers.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

The operations of the pay department covered disbursements for the pay of the army amounting to \$1,851,254.16. The greater portion of this amount was paid in cash by the paymasters going from station to station.

The chief paymaster remarks as follows:

Paragraph 1373, Army Regulations, as amended in General Orders 154, War Department, 1908, requires that the fact of qualification shall be published in department orders before a soldier can be paid the amount provided by law for proficiency in marksmanship. This requirement delays, in many instances for many months, the payment to the soldier of an amount which he has fully earned under the law.

* * * * *

Except in isolated cases the question of qualification is the ascertainment of a fact within the knowledge of the soldier's immediate commanding officer. Were it not for this requirement the statement on the roll of the fact of qualification would warrant the pay department in making payment at the first payment after qualification. That this is practicable is shown in the method now adopted in the case of men discharged from the service between the dates of qualification and the publication of that qualification in orders.

Referring to the new system of preparing pay rolls, only the original being signed, I would recommend a return to the old system of having the men sign the three. From my observation of the workings of the present system I do not believe that at the end of a year the average retained company roll will be of any value as a record of payment. Again, signed duplicate rolls in the office of a paymaster serve a useful purpose in the prompt payment of final statements presented when the letter of notification has gone astray, a comparison of signatures being the usual means of identification.

A matter of pressing necessity in the pay department is that of improving the status of paymasters' clerks. The positions they occupy is different from that of clerks in any of the other departments of the army.

At the last session of Congress a bill prepared by the Paymaster-General of the Army was introduced by Senator Frye and known as Senate bill 5491. It provides that after its passage paymasters' clerks shall be known as paymasters' assistants, shall be warrant officers, with the pay and allowances of second lieutenant, and shall be fully amenable to the rules and articles of war and to the regulations. The objects of the bill are to make paymasters' clerks in law what they are in fact, a part of the army; to make the security of their tenure an inducement to that thorough preparation necessary to a full discharge of the duties of their position where for its intelligent discharge a constant study of the laws, decisions, and rulings, at times complex and apparently inconsistent, is necessary and indispensable; to enable the War Department to make use of their service in a legal way in supplementing the paymasters in their duties, and to aid the officers detailed into the Pay Department in the prompt payment

of officers and men of the amounts due them as pay and allowances under the law and its numerous interpretations. This bill has received the strong approval of the Secretary of War, with a request for its enactment into law, besides the approval of several of the high ranking officers of the army. Paymasters usually handle large sums of money, which it is absolutely necessary should at times be handled by the clerk, and this situation has been recognized by the Court of Claims as proper and necessary. The integrity and intelligence with which paymasters' clerks have unfailingly discharged the responsible duties of their positions, both fiduciary and clerical, entitle them to consideration. This bill will come up for consideration at the next session of Congress.

In connection with bill S. 5491, referred to by the chief paymaster, I am thoroughly satisfied that something in the line of making the worthy clerks of the Pay Department and those of all other departments eligible for retirement after a given number of years of faithful service is necessary to give them a status which will induce them to remain on duty with the army.

The arguments advanced in favor of this bill would seem to be more or less applicable to the clerks of all other departments.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Considerable work has devolved upon the officers and men of the two companies F and G, Second Battalion of Engineers. Many officers and men have been employed in road construction throughout Cuba, and the progress and efficiency of this work can be attributed to them.

The work on the new military map of Cuba has been continued and vigorously prosecuted, so that on January 1, 1908, a map of any portion of the island could be furnished from the office of the chief engineer on short notice. Much use was made of these maps by the troops in their maneuvers and practice marches during the period of field training.

The following is quoted from the report of the chief engineer officer:

During the period covered by this report the work of preparing the new military map of the island of Cuba was continued without interruption. At the beginning of the year the field work covering practically the entire island had been turned into this office and some little of it had been compiled. Appreciating the necessity of being able to issue a map of any portion of the island at the earliest possible date, the work of compiling the remainder of the field work was vigorously prosecuted and about the 1st of January, 1908, the office was prepared to supply a map of any portion of this island on short notice.

During the process of compilation it was made evident that there were some errors in the field work which should be corrected, and since the beginning of the year the principal work done has been securing additional data and making the necessary corrections on the original sheets. As soon as possible after the sheets were first drawn negatives of them were made and from these negatives prints prepared; prints covering the territory surrounding every place where United States troops were stationed were sent to the post commanders, and they received instructions from army headquarters to compare the map with the topography in the field with a view to ascertaining whether there were any errors which needed correction or any additions to be placed upon the map; prints showing the necessary corrections and additions were turned in to this office and the data secured therefrom placed on the amended sheets. During the winter season, while the troops all over the island were engaged in practice marches and maneuvers, the resulting road and position maps were sent to this office, where they were carefully compared with the map of the island; from them much valuable information was obtained, and it was possible to make numerous corrections and additions. It was found that the department of public works had in its possession many road surveys and that new surveys for

new roads were in progress; blueprints of these surveys were obtained from the department reduced to the proper scale, and they have aided largely in determining the correct locations of many places on the island. The result of all this work has been to give a framework based upon well-ascertained positions of numerous points throughout the island, upon which the work done by the reconnaissance parties can be placed with the certainty that the resulting map will be reasonably accurate and well adapted for the purposes for which it is intended.

Plans have been secured of every important town throughout the island, and these, drawn to a scale of 6 inches to the mile, are being placed on the corresponding sheets of the map, and where the towns in any locality are too numerous they are placed on a supplemental sheet. Brief notes are being put on every sheet showing in general terms the character of the country covered by it, the lines of communication, the character of the streams, possible camp sites, the resources of the district, and such miscellaneous information as may be important from a military standpoint.

During the period of field training this office was called upon to furnish many blueprints for the use of troops in their maneuvers and practice marches; these maps were supplied as far as possible and were used in the field to a great extent. This gave an excellent opportunity to test the accuracy of the map and its usefulness under such circumstances.

During the past year this office has issued over 1,100 blueprints of parts of the new map; this furnishes an indication of the use which has already been made of it.

As stated above, this office is now in a position to issue maps of the entire island or any portion thereof, and the remaining work will consist of correcting this map as additional data are secured, in completing the maps of the towns, and in placing the explanatory notes on the sheets. There are some few portions of the island which have not been covered as fully as may be necessary; this is known to be the case near the extreme eastern end of the island, where the weather conditions made it impossible for reconnaissance parties to penetrate the rugged mountain districts where there are some trails which might be important; if time serves during the coming dry season, it is hoped to have these portions of the island examined with a view to mapping them more accurately than has yet been done. There are also some few places where work done by different parties joins in which there is some uncertainty as to the correct location of roads and towns; if possible, during the next dry season, these localities will also be examined with a view to making the necessary corrections and additions on the map.

This map has been prepared on the scale of 1:62,500, about an inch to a mile, but it has been so drawn that it will be capable of reduction to a smaller scale, which will make it more easily handled, while it will be clear enough for all military purposes. Just as soon as the sheets have been finished, the notes and corrections furnished by additional data placed thereon, it is believed that it will be well to take steps to have the map reproduced on a smaller scale and prepared for use in case it is needed.

* * * * *

ROADS.

During the entire year work was continued on the four roads in the Province of Pinar del Rio which are being constructed under my supervision.

Up to the end of the year about 90 kilometers of road had been graded so that traffic could pass over it, and 36 kilometers of macadam road had been entirely completed. This work has involved the expenditure of approximately \$1,350,000. The work was carried on during all of the rainy season of 1907, and is in progress during the rainy season of this year; the roads run through districts where the cost of transporting supplies has been very great; many bridges and culverts, the cost of which is included in the above sum, have been necessary; these causes have made the cost of the work very large, but it is believed that this work has been done as economically as was possible under the adverse circumstances.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

From the depot in Habana all issues have been made promptly to the several commands throughout the island. The supplies furnished have been of excellent quality.

The new United States magazine rifle was supplied this army early in January, 1908, in time for the target practice of this year. To this new rifle is attributed in the main the improvement in target practice throughout the command, and, as heretofore reported, this new rifle is believed to have no superior. It is universally reported to be more accurate than the old rifle, and with the reduction in recoil the men have more confidence in it. The increased accuracy is very apparent up to 1,000 yards. Some reports indicate that for ranges beyond the old rifle was more accurate, which would seem to indicate that the deviation of the old bullet by wind is greater up to ranges of about a thousand yards, beyond which the deviation of the old bullet by the wind is less than the deviation in the new bullet. The new rifle has been carefully reported upon and reports forwarded to the Chief of Ordnance, and the slight defects noticeable have received prompt and remedial attention. The most serious of these is a too close fitting of the cartridges in the chamber, in consequence of which the new rifles give defective extraction of loaded cartridges. The smooth working of the parts will be brought about by the corrective measures of the Ordnance Department and by constant use. The chief ordnance officer has reported upon all matters pertaining to the new rifle and the reports have been forwarded to the Chief of Ordnance.

SIGNAL CORPS.

A full report of the operations of the signal corps has been forwarded by the chief signal officer of this command to the Chief Signal Officer of the Army.

Following is an extract therefrom:

ORGANIZATION, INSTRUCTION, AND WORK OF THE COMPANY.

During the entire year the original organization effected on arrival in Cuba has been maintained. This consists of a composite company of four platoons:

One field-wire platoon of four squads, with a capacity for laying 18 miles of field wire, 40 miles of buzzer wire, and operating four stations.

One wireless-telegraph platoon of three sections, each section consisting of one noncommissioned officer in charge and two squads, each section operating one portable wireless station.

Two base-line platoons, one including all of the men on detached service at Cuban government telegraph stations, the other including those men engaged in the construction, operation, and maintenance of the telephone system connecting Marianao, Camp Columbia, and Habana.

As the number of men in the company dwindled from expiration of term of service, the number of men in these last two platoons has been reduced from time to time. The field platoons, however, practically constituting a field company, have been kept up to strength at all times with full equipment and daily practice, and have always been in readiness for instant field service. These two field platoons, under the command of First Lieut. John E. Hemphill, marched to Pinar del Rio, 120 miles, on March 17, and participated in the maneuvers of the cavalry and artillery at that place, and returned by marching to Camp Columbia on April 17. These maneuvers are believed to have been the first in the history of the American if not of any other army in which the movement of troops during the maneuvers was handled by wireless-telegraph communication. The wireless sections of this command have habitually been able during the past year to maintain communication over a distance of 15 miles with certainty. The only instances of failure to make this distance have been those rare occasions when the static was so excessive as to cause a delay of five or six hours until a more quiet part of the day.

The annual athletic tournament of the Army of Cuban Pacification is now in progress, and upon the date of this report two signal corps contests occur there, as follows:

Contest between two field wireless sections, reeling out one-half mile of field wire, establishing buzzer stations at both ends, and transmitting a ten-word message, won by Sergeant Wall's section, time 2 minutes 32 seconds.

Contest between two wireless telegraph sections, required to set up complete and in perfect order one signal corps portable wireless set with Telefunken pole, won by Sergeant Fitch's section, time 3 minutes 33 seconds. The other section's time was 4 minutes 20 seconds.

The results and the work that has been necessary to bring them about speak for themselves.

Pursuant to the verbal instructions of the commanding general, the chief signal officer acted during the past year as adviser to the department of communications in connection with the installation of a system of wireless telegraph stations being installed by the Cuban Government throughout the island under contract. Reports have been made from time to time regarding the progress of these installations.

The following recommendations are made:

1. That the use of the Myer code be discontinued for all purposes of the Signal Corps, and that the American Morse code be used in its place.

2. That all signal corps organizations be armed with pistols only; that each signal corps company carry with its equipment one case of 20 rifles and 2,000 cartridges therefor, to be placed in the hands of men on line duty and the like, when they have no proper escort, and in the judgment of the commanding officer it is thought desirable.

3. That effort be made to have the appropriation for funds for the purchase of public animals so worded that it will include animals for the use of the Signal Corps, and such provision made that when requisition is presented for the animals provided for in orders for the Signal Corps and approved by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army that these animals be provided.

4. That since the Signal Corps, as now provided by law, is filled up, no original enlistments or reenlistments be made of men that have no special qualification for the Signal Corps. It is believed that enough men with satisfactory qualifications can be secured, and that there is no necessity for taking men without these qualifications. This statement is based on the fact that permission could not be obtained here to enlist a man of splendid qualifications for several weeks on account of the corps being full, and that among the last 20 men sent to join the signal corps in Cuba were several with no qualifications whatever for the work of the corps.

5. That the extremities to which the Signal Corps has been put in Cuba, which I have no doubt has been just as great at other places, on account of the lack of officers to properly do the work that the army now demands of the Signal Corps, be presented to the Secretary of War with a view to having some measures taken for relief.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.

The following changes have been made in the Provisional Regiment of Marines: Company A, from Nuevitas to Manzanillo; Company L, from Lajas to Santo Domingo. Otherwise the stations are the same as shown in the last annual report.

The affairs of the Provisional Regiment have been ably administered by Lieutenant-Colonel Moses, and the marines have performed their duties satisfactorily.

The marines should be equipped as the infantry of our army with the new army rifle, the same ammunition, and the same equipments. They are now supplied with the wall tent for field service, which should be replaced by the conical wall tent. The slight differences that exist between the present drill regulations of the Marine Corps and of our infantry are so unimportant that the latter should be adopted by the marines.

The regimental commander concurs in the above recommendations, and further recommends that the army summary court law should be

made applicable to the Marine Corps, not as a substitute for the laws establishing punishment by commanding officers, but in addition thereto, and as a separate and distinct means of enforcing discipline. This would take the place of the naval summary court, which corresponds to the army garrison court.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

The difficulty of maintaining the organizations to an efficient working strength owing to shortage of recruits, referred to in the last annual report, no longer exists; they are now, approximately, at their maximum strength and recruits of good quality are received as needed.

In respect of enlisted men, the increased pay and allowances and the increased ration would seem to be all-sufficient, and the status of the soldier to-day is better than it ever was, and much better than it is in any other service. When one considers this satisfactory condition and the many privileges opened to the enlisted man, only the very best applicants should be accepted as recruits. With the generous pay and allowances now provided, if the army can not be maintained at its maximum strength with the very best material, there would seem nothing left but to resort to conscription.

The increased pay and allowances for officers so generously provided by Congress was very necessary and a great relief, especially to the younger officers with families, who were having difficulty in making both ends meet.

The act making appropriation for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, provides, among other things:

That hereafter the United States shall furnish mounts and horse equipments for all officers of the army below the grade of major required to be mounted, or in case any officer below the grade of major required to be mounted provides himself with suitable mounts, at his own expense, he shall receive an addition to his pay of \$150 per annum if he provides one mount, and \$200 per annum if he provides two mounts.

This very generous provision would seem to require very careful consideration. There are some officers who never have and who never will own their mounts, and when it comes to obtaining them from the Government there is apt to be some dissatisfaction with those furnished and complaint that the horse is not suitable for the purpose required. Under this generous provision of the law the best results will be obtained by causing mounted officers to purchase their mounts, and specific instructions should issue that only standard cavalry horses, suitable in every way for the full requirements of mounted service, should entitle the owner to the additional pay.

The shortage of officers referred to in the last annual report and the causes therefor still exist, and while satisfied that this command is as well supplied as any in this respect, yet the shortage is felt, especially among the captains. At this date, of 77 captains who should be present with the 7 regiments of infantry and cavalry (headquarters and two battalions each), 25 are absent permanently and 7 vacancies exist to be filled by promotion. The aim of a captain should be to remain with his company, and the aim of the authorities should be to keep him there, and detach him only under exceptional circumstances or when the law so provides. Many of

the duties for which captains are detached might well be performed by experienced first lieutenants. The unit upon which all military organization depends is the company, and with good companies, good battalions, regiments, etc., necessarily follow. Without good companies it is difficult, if not impracticable, to have good higher units. The captain is the person to make the company what it should be, and not leave it to the command of inexperienced lieutenants who are constantly changing.

It is questionable if the best results are obtained by the detail of captains as regimental staff officers, and in time of peace under ordinary conditions three staff officers to a regiment do not seem to be necessary. The detail of captains as regimental staff officers of course makes promotion to the grade of captain, and to this extent it is desirable, but as good results seemingly obtained when experienced lieutenants were detailed for that duty and given the pay of captain and made mounted officers. This was a big inducement for a lieutenant to so perform his duties as to maintain his position. There is very little inducement now for a captain to take a regimental staff position—none whatever in the cavalry and field artillery, where the officers are all mounted, and in the infantry and coast artillery only that it makes him a mounted officer. The fact that the regimental staff is composed of captains works both ways. Some colonels, irrespective of the number of captains on duty with their regiments, have at all times three captains on regimental staff duty. Other colonels, who are short of captains, deprive themselves of a regimental staff and have those duties performed by battalion staff officers or other lieutenants. In this command there are two regiments, one with five captains and the other with four captains present, yet in each instance the colonel has three captains as regimental staff. Under ordinary conditions of peace and except at the very large posts, the regimental quartermaster could well perform the duties of commissary, and in fact at many of the large posts there are officers of the Quartermaster's Department on duty as post quartermasters. The best results will always obtain if the colonel is kept with his regiment and the captain with his company, and every effort should be bent in that direction.

Formerly a regimental staff officer had some permanency; that is, he could feel that he would remain with the regiment for the full term of his staff duty. Now apparently sufficient attention is not paid to the fact that he is a regimental staff officer in detailing him elsewhere. One regiment of this command has had three adjutants in four months owing to the fact that two adjutants were detailed in staff departments. In another instance a regimental adjutant who had been on duty with his regiment about two years, after a long service on detached duty, was again detached for a long tour without any reference to himself, his regimental or higher commander. The ten years' service of that officer, say from 1901 to 1911, will probably show eight years of detached service away from troops. It is not believed that his case is unusual. Regimental administration will be improved if more permanency is given to the regimental staff; that is, an officer when so detailed should ordinarily be permitted to serve out his tour of four years.

There is also great shortage of field officers. Two regiments of this command have but one field officer (the colonel) on duty with each. It would seem that with the headquarters and two battalions at least

three of the five field officers of each regiment should be here. If any of these officers are permanently unfit for tropical service that question should be determined.

The army officers on duty under the provisional government have performed all their duties satisfactorily and with commendable efficiency and intelligence. Additional officers from this command were temporarily detailed under the provisional government for duty in the preliminary work preparatory to the elections, and two officers of this command were made available as governors of provinces.

In all there are 29 army officers on duty with the provisional government, distributed as follows:

Aid to governor.....	1
Advisers to and in practical charge of executive departments of the provisional government.....	5
Governors of provinces.....	6
Armed forces of Cuba.....	3
Department of state and justice.....	6
Department of public works.....	2
Department of government.....	2
Department of sanitation.....	4

FIELD AND GARRISON TRAINING.

FIELD TRAINING.

In order to give full effect to the requirements of General Orders, No. 177, War Department, August 27, 1907, the general orders which had previously been issued from these headquarters for the practical instruction of the troops composing the Army of Cuban Pacification were modified to conform thereto.

The period of field training extends from October 1 to March 31 following, and during this period one march in each month of not less than three nor more than six days was prescribed, and all commands were required to take the field during the said period once for not less than twenty-one consecutive days. During one day each week within the period devoted to practical instruction station commanders were required to see that company commanders had their entire organizations for such practical training as organization commanders might wish to give. Station commanders were required to check up each organization and assure themselves that every man was out, so adjusting other duties of their command as to permit this. The entire day was to be utilized for the instruction of their command in one form or another.

Under general instructions from these headquarters projects had been prepared for each station to suit the particular conditions obtaining thereat, and such projects were adhered to and carried out in the manner contemplated by the orders from the War Department.

In addition to range firing, which is elsewhere treated of in this report under the head of "Small-arms practice," practice marches were made, camps were established, drills and exercises of every kind calculated to instruct and prepare the soldier in peace for his active duties in war were held; advance and rear guard formations were maintained, attack and defense of convoys and selected positions, outpost duty, reconnaissance, patrolling by day and night, night

operations, road sketching, the making of reports, instruction in cooking, etc., were all carried out in spirit as well as in letter by the troops of this command, according to the intent of the War Department as prescribed in General Orders, No. 177, referred to above.

Owing to the conditions of weather, arrival of recruits, target practice, yellow-fever quarantine, etc., the time of execution of some of the marches and problems was changed, and some of the commands necessarily excused, as shown by the records. The troops of this army, from the 17 stations occupied by them, made 156 marches, covering a distance of 7,193 miles. As the result of such marches and exercises the command has been maintained in the condition of field service at all times, which emphasizes the benefits derived from General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, and General Orders, Nos. 50 and 136, these headquarters.

As a result of the experience in this last season of field training it may be stated that greater contentment obtained among the troops through the abolition of the weekly practice march and the substitution therefor of one march per month of from three to six days, this period being long enough to enable instruction being given to recruits in camping, marching, and caring for themselves in the field without subjecting them to any particular hardship.

The twenty-one days' practice march affords opportunity for engaging in exercises for which opportunity does not present itself in and about the different stations, and is ample to test the efficiency of all camp equipment, including transportation. Particular attention has been paid to the working of the system prescribed by General Orders, No. 177; the results obtained have been reported, classified for each station, and will be forwarded separately to the War Department. It is recommended that no change be made in the system outlined in the general orders referred to. All field officers of this command engaged in the practice marches.

Instructions of June 27, 1908, call for an expression of opinion as to the advisability of decreasing the number of articles prescribed to be carried in the pack of infantry regiments. Experience in the tropics, both in the Philippines and in Cuba, demonstrates that United States troops can get along very well on the march and in campaign with such shelter as they may be able to find at hand or improvise for themselves.

General Orders, No. 23, War Department, 1906, prescribes—

Arms and equipments of * * * infantry * * * : 1 United States magazine rifle, caliber .30, 1 bayonet, 1 bayonet scabbard, 1 gun sling, 1 rifle cartridge belt and fastener, 1 pair rifle cartridge-belt suspenders, 1 first-aid packet (Medical Department), 1 pouch for first-aid packet, 1 waist belt, 1 cartridge box (McKeever), 1 canteen, 1 canteen strap, 1 set blanket-roll straps, 1 haversack, 1 meat can, 1 cup, 1 knife, 1 fork, 1 spoon, 1 shelter tent half (Quartermaster's Department), 1 shelter tent pole (Quartermaster's Department), 5 shelter tent pins (Quartermaster's Department).

The field kit for infantry, in addition to the clothing worn on the person, is composed of the following articles:

Clothing, etc.: 1 blanket, 1 comb, 1 housewife, 1 rubber poncho, 1 cake soap, 1 pair stockings, 1 toothbrush, 1 towel.

The foregoing field kit, which is carried on the person, is supplemented by the surplus kit, the two together making up the service kit.

The surplus kit consists of 1 pair drawers, 1 pair marching shoes, 2 pairs stockings, 1 undershirt.

Paragraph 7. General Orders, No. 177, War Department, 1907, states:

Hereafter skirmish fire, both instruction and record practice, will be conducted in marching order, as prescribed herein:

(A) * * * The following articles of the field kit will be carried in the blanket roll made up as required in paragraph 486, Infantry Drill Regulations, viz: 1 half shelter tent, 5 shelter-tent pins, 1 shelter-tent pole, 1 blanket, 1 comb, 1 housewife, 1 rubber poncho, 1 cake of soap, 1 pair stockings, 1 toothbrush, 1 towel.

It should be noted that the first three articles are not of the field kit as prescribed in General Orders, No. 23, War Department, 1906.

It is not believed that a uniform pack, to be worn alike in the United States, Cuba, the Philippines, Porto Rico, and Alaska, should be prescribed. The conditions of service and climate are too entirely different to permit of one pack serving equally well for all of these varying climates. Commanding officers of troops in the field, district and department commanders, should have authority to modify the pack in accordance with the necessities of the particular case.

In the tropics the blanket roll should be restricted to the blanket itself, including the toilet articles, if they are not carried with the haversack in a bellows pocket outside of and attached thereto near the top.

On the subject generally of weights carried by troops it may be stated that the lightening of the infantry pack is of the utmost importance, since even a slight reduction in the weight carried by an individual produces a considerable increase in the distance he is able to march.

The articles composing the present kit should, however, remain a part of the field kit and be at hand in the garrison for use in the field if required.

In connection with the requirements that skirmish fire, both instruction and record practice, shall be conducted in marching order, it may be remarked that the consensus of opinion in this army is that the blanket roll should be omitted as not serving any practical use in instruction which would be put in practice in time of actual engagement. It is almost a foregone conclusion that troops in action would free themselves from the incumbrance of the blanket roll while delivering their fire, even as they did discard, in former years, the knapsack and other impediments, to enable them more effectually to use their arms.

Following the period of target practice, the Second Squadron, Eleventh Cavalry, Light Battery F, Third Field Artillery, Mountain Batteries A and B, Second Field Artillery, Camp Columbia, joined the garrison at Pinar del Rio in field maneuvers covering a period of ten days, during which these two splendid mountain batteries hung to and kept up with the cavalry. The operations, nevertheless, emphasized the necessity for mounting all men of mountain batteries in order to obtain the best results. It is impracticable for mountain batteries as now organized to keep up with fast moving mounted or flying columns for any length of time.

During these maneuvers the Cuban battery operated with and under the guidance of Gatley's fine light battery, and both made forced night marches over country so rough that it was believed to be impracticable for light artillery, yet the batteries came through

in line single file following the main body. Troops F and G, Eleventh Cavalry, made a remarkable march back to Camp Columbia, a distance of 110 miles.

The following is a quotation from General Orders No. 62, current since these operations, respecting the march:

The commanding general has observed with satisfaction the attention of the command to marches and extraordinary feat just performed by Troops F and G, Eleventh Cavalry. These troops were sent from Camp Columbia to Pinar del Rio, and were in such condition as to march seventy miles during the month of August, when they were not in the best of health and no drills. It can be said that the men were suffering from lack of food and shelter. For the purpose of marching, the troops were sent out in their own way, which were of a very satisfactory nature, and the condition of the men and horses.

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In fact, this march was made there was considerable discussion by those concerned and by many who were not concerned as to the expediency of it, and there were many who did not believe the march could be made in this climate at this time of the year.

The proper spirit to manifest on occasions when officers and men have a hard task to perform is to encourage them by word and act and not dishearten them by arguing that the feat is impossible. In this particular instance the two captains concerned and the officers and men of the troops were heartily in the spirit of the feat and had full confidence in themselves and their mounts, and were not to be discouraged. Their commanding general shared this confidence, and the result justified it.

In round numbers the distance from the camp at the target range at Pinar del Rio to Camp Columbia by the route traveled is 110 miles. The march has been made and in the history of the American Army, it is doubted if such a feat has ever been performed with such results.

Troop F covered the distance, including halts, in approximately twenty-nine hours. Troop G in approximately thirty hours. Careful personal examination by the commanding general, the Inspector General of this army, and the supervising veterinarian reveals the fact that men and horses came through without injury to a single man or horse, not even to the extent of one sore back.

The credit for this extraordinary result is due entirely to the troop commanders and their officers and men, to their efficient handling and instruction, and to the spirit that animated them.

The commanding general extends to them, one and all, his sincere congratulations. In the tropics and without the inspiration of an enemy this feat is marvelous, and demonstrates what may be expected of the American soldier and horse when properly appealed to, instructed, and led. It is all the more remarkable when it is considered that of the 81 enlisted men who made the march 34 have had less than one year's service.

GARRISON TRAINING.

The season of garrison training extends from April 1 to September 30. Supplementing General Orders, No. 50, these headquarters, May 23, 1907, a very comprehensive system of garrison training, including athletic and military exercises, is prescribed in General Orders, No. 45, current series.

GUARD DUTY.

The guard at Camp Columbia is mounted in the evening and that duty is performed by organizations. This method is so satisfactory and its advantages so great that it would seem advisable to apply it generally throughout the service to all large stations containing a regiment or more and where the guard is approximately the size of a company. Among its many advantages the principal are that the officer of the day, the officers of the guard, and the noncommissioned officers and privates thereof are thoroughly known to each other, which is not the case when the guard is made up of a number of small detachments selected from several companies; the other organizations of the post are not broken up by making details therefrom for guard; the keeping of rosters is simplified; this method conduces to convenience of administration generally and excites company emulation in the instruction of the guard and the manner of performing this important duty.

There is no difficulty about mounted organizations, as the animals can be cared for by the surplus men, and even if they are only fed and watered for that one day that is sufficient.

ATHLETICS.

To stimulate effort and have a goal to work to, an athletic meet was provided for to take place at Camp Columbia, beginning Monday, June 29, and terminating Saturday, July 4. The competitors of the different posts, 731 in all, joined the 600 contestants already in training at Camp Columbia as representatives of local units. The meet was most successful and of lasting benefit to all concerned. The discipline was perfect.

General Orders, No. 153, these headquarters, 1908, publishes the details and results of the meet, from which the following is quoted:

Such an athletic meet could not have been held without systematic general training as a condition precedent, and this systematic general training, including the preliminary meets at the various posts, as outlined in General Orders, No. 45, mentioned above, searched through the ranks of every troop, battery, and company, seeking the best there was there. In this quest for the best the stimulus of competition was applied to individuals and to organizations, pride and confidence were cultivated, and esprit de corps inflamed. These qualities are invaluable assets to the military man in time of war and he must cultivate them in time of peace. The strife of extensive athletic contest, carefully stimulated and properly controlled, affords a peace-time generator of spirit which should not lack appreciation.

Again the general, without hesitating in such a meet makes himself for the moment, central, head, heart of the entire command, even though but a small number of spectators may witness the honor of winning points in the final contest. In the various companies men who have been indoctrinated with methods of systematic exercise have their set up improved, their general health effected and their physical qualities generally harmonized and balanced.

In time of war the most vital national requirement is the one quality which must be called upon to carry on the front line and through the hardships of campaign those other essential attributes of the soldier, i. e., the resourceful brain, the initiative and the spirit of courage.

THE SPIRIT OF THE MEETING.

After this said and told to be the real importance and value of such a meet can not possibly be measured in terms of people present, contestants entered, medals won, spectators won, etc. The material side of the affair is not the phase which permeates the memory of the host because this we must turn to the spirit of the occasion. The pleasant atmosphere and eager hope of all concerned, the welcome of the invited guests, the reunion of old friends, the zest of earnest, unselfish efforts of fitness and course of remediation, the outpouring of good fellowship—these are the elements which time deems most valuable, for they are stamped on the memory long after the recollection of material things has faded away.

It was fortunate that the happy spirit of the meet had for its setting the natural beauty of Manila, the bay, the sea, the beach and Little Bay at the "Plaza of Manila," and the green of the lush, flowering hills above the blue waters of the reef and beyond to the forested hills in the heart of the different arms of the service to wind from the "olive branches" of the other athletes, the scenes and events of the day were glorified and enriched with a brilliant background for its disinterested spirit of achievement and good will.

With unexcelled facilities for entertainment and accommodation, with men especially adapted by selection, training, and equipment, and with enormous benefits sure to result, it would be hard were the army at once granted advantageous athletic opportunities the same as those recently afforded by the athletic meet of 1906 for the Army of the United States.

The troops, staff officers, and civilian employees have performed their duties with marked intelligence and efficiency. My acknowledgment is due them and is hereby extended.

In obedience to the orders of the President of the United States, the undersigned, during the temporary absence of the Hon. Charles F. Magoon, was provisional governor of Cuba from January 27 to March 4, 1906, and from August 19, 1908, to date.

THOMAS H. BARRY,

Major-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

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